/TelanganaToday
@TelanganaToday
t.me/TelanganaToday
/TelanganaToday

Telangana Today

FOR LOCAL TO GLOBAL NEWS

Tuesday, September 17, 2024
Price Rs. 6
HYDERABAD EDITION
Vol. 8 | No. 276 | Pages 12

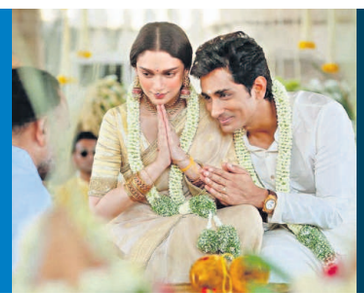
NATION | PAGE 08

India preparing base for next 1,000 years, says Modi

WORLD | PAGE 09

16 Palestinians killed in Israeli airstrikes on Gaza

Israel accuses Hamas of endangering civilians by operating in residential areas



ENTERTAINMENT | PAGE 12

Aditi, Siddharth are now 'Mrs & Mr Adu-Siddhu'

In a nutshell

7 Odisha students expelled over beef

BERHAMPUR: Seven students of a state-run engineering college in Odisha's Berhampur district were expelled from their hostel for allegedly cooking beef, a "restricted" activity on the premises, an official said on Monday. Parala Maharaja Engineering College authorities issued an order on Thursday, stating that the seven boarders of two hostels were expelled for being involved in "restrictive activities". PTI

Tight vigil in place for J&K elections

SRINAGAR: Multi-tier security arrangements have been put in place to ensure free and fair Assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir. "As the first phase of voting will take place on September 18, J&K police have made elaborate security arrangements for polls so that maximum number of people can exercise their right to vote," Inspector General of Police Kashmir Zone VK Birdi said.

NATION PAGE 7

Girls drown in bid to save brother

DEHRADUN: Two minor girls swept away in the strong current of the Ganga river while trying to save their younger brother from drowning in Haripur Kalan. According to officials, nine-year-old Suraj started drifting in strong current following which his two sisters - Sakshi (15) and Vaishnavi (13) - jumped into water to save him. The sisters saved Suraj by pushing him towards the bank but were themselves swept away. PTI

Manipur: Curbs on internet lifted

IMPHAL: The Manipur government on Monday lifted the temporary suspension on internet services in the five valley districts with immediate effect. Commissioner (Home) N Ashok Kumar said the government reviewed the prevailing situation and decided to lift the internet suspension, which was imposed as a preventive measure.

NATION PAGE 8

CHICKEN RATES IN HYDERABAD

Farm	Rs. 100
Retail live	Rs. 122
With skin	Rs. 177
Skinless	Rs. 201
Egg Rates (12 eggs)	Rs. 72

Cong Delhi bosses ditch Rajiv statue unveiling

BRS slams govt's move to install statue near Secretariat, to perform *palabhishekam* to Telangana Thalli statues

STATE BUREAU
HYDERABAD

Even as his party's top bosses, including Sonia Gandhi, Mallikarjun Kharge and Rahul Gandhi chose to stay away from the unveiling of former Prime Minister late Rajiv Gandhi's statue here on Monday, Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy went ahead and himself unveiled the statue in front of the Secretariat.

The move, which triggered different speculations within the Congress State unit itself, came after the Delhi bosses of the Congress stood away despite Revath Reddy and IT Minister D Sridhar Babu personally meeting Kharge in New Delhi and inviting him to the function on August 16. The function was actually scheduled for August 20, coinciding with the former Prime Minister's birth anniversary.

However, that was postponed for nearly a month, and when it finally happened, except for AICC Telangana incharge Deepadas Munshi, not many national leaders turned up for the programme. Interestingly, AICC secretary Viswanath and others, representing the high command, participated in the swearing-in ceremony of Mahesh Kumar Goud as the new TPCC president at Gandhi Bhavan on Sunday. Even as Congress workers are discussing why Delhi cold-shouldered Revanth Reddy, on the other hand, the BRS has come out vociferously against the installation of Rajiv Gandhi's statue in front of the Secretariat.

> **ENTIRE TELANGANA SOCIETY IS DEEPLY HURT BY THE GOVERNMENT'S DECISION TO INSTALL RAJIV GANDHI STATUE IN THE LOCATION EARMARKED FOR TELANGANA THALLI STATUE**
>
> **— KTR,** BRS WORKING PRESIDENT

Opposing the Congress government's decision to unveil the former Prime Minister's statue in the place reserved for the statue of Telangana Thalli, the BRS has decided to organise Statewide protests on Tuesday, with BRS working president KT Rama Rao announcing that party cadre would perform 'palabhishekam' to statues of Telangana Thalli in all Assembly constituencies across the State. In a statement on Monday, Rama Rao expressed strong discontent over the Congress government's decision, calling the move a "shameful act", insulting the identity and spirit of Telangana. He stated that the entire Telangana society was deeply concerned and hurt by the Congress government's decision to place Rajiv Gandhi's statue in the location earmarked for Telangana Thalli's statue.

"While we have no objection to the Congress honouring Rajiv Gandhi, doing so at the expense of Telangana's heritage and identity is unacceptable," he reiterated, urging Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy to correct this mistake immediately.

Rama Rao reminded that the then Chief Minister K Chandrashekhar Rao had selected the site in July 2023 for the Telangana Thalli statue, near the Telangana Amara Jyothi and Secretariat, as a symbol of the State's pride and aspirations. "The Congress, by installing the statue of someone not associated with the Telangana movement, has hurt the sentiments of every Telangana citizen," he said.

He vowed that whenever the BRS returned to power, it would remove the statue of Rajiv Gandhi from its current location and relocate it to Gandhi Bhavan, ensuring that the site remained reserved for Telangana Thalli. "We will restore the honour of Telangana by placing the rightful statue of Telangana Thalli where it belongs," he declared.

Rama Rao also said the Congress leadership was prioritising Delhi's approval over Telangana's interests. He said Telangana's soul was being mortgaged to impress the Delhi bosses. "Revanth and Congress leaders have placed their loyalty to Delhi bosses above the people of Telangana," he said, warning that such actions would not be tolerated by the people and those who undermine Telangana's existence would be politically defeated.

(RELATED REPORTS PAGE 5)

Trump survives 2nd assassination bid

WASHINGTON

Former US president Donald Trump is safe after he escaped an apparent assassination attempt while he was golfing on his course in Florida, a second bid on his life in two months. The incident took place on Sunday at the Trump International Golf Club in West Palm Beach, Florida.

Secret Service agents "opened fire on a gunman located near the property line" of Trump International Golf Club in West Palm Beach, Rafael Barros, the special agent in charge in Miami, said during a news conference, adding that the agency was "unsure whether the individual," who is in custody, "was able to take a shot at our agents."

Trump, who was golfing at the club at the time, was unharmed. According to Palm Beach County Sheriff Ric Bradshaw, a Secret Service agent spotted the suspect with a rifle sticking through the fence of the golf course and immediately fired at the man before he fled the scene. Republican presidential nominee Trump, 78, was 300 to 500 yards away from the suspect, Bradshaw said.

In a message to his supporters, Trump said he is safe. "There were gunshots in my vicinity, but before rumours start spiralling out of control, I wanted you to hear this first: I AM SAFE AND WELL! Nothing will slow me down. I will NEVER SURRENDER!" he said. Ryan Wesley Routh, a 58-year-old owner of a small construction company in Hawaii, has been detained in connection with Sunday's incident, according to three law enforcement sources. Routh has criticised former President many times.

Republican presidential candidate President Donald Trump during a campaign rally in Las Vegas. — File Photo

This was the second attempt on Trump's life in two months. In July, a life-threatening attack on Trump during his rally in Pennsylvania shocked the entire nation.

He injured his right ear after the young shooter fired multiple shots at him at the campaign rally. Routh, who has a lengthy criminal record from North Carolina, frequently posted about politics and exclusively donated to Democratic candidates and causes dating back to 2019, the New York Post reported.

He also bashed Trump in an April 22 post on X in which he declared, "DEMOCRACY is on the ballot and we cannot lose." During an interview with the New York Times in 2023, Routh also said he was seeking recruits for Ukraine from among Afghan soldiers who had fled the Taliban.

He said he planned to move them, in some cases illegally, from Pakistan and Iran to Ukraine. He said dozens had expressed interest. "We can probably purchase some passports through Pakistan since it's such a corrupt country," he was quoted as saying by the 'New York Times'.

(SEE PAGES 2, 9)

KCR plans BRS strategy meet

STATE BUREAU
Hyderabad

In a move to chalk out the future course of action for the BRS and reinvigorate the party, Leader of Opposition and BRS president K Chandrashekhar Rao is set to hold a high-level meeting with senior leaders.

The meeting will discuss the growing concerns in Telangana, particularly regarding farmer-related issues and the Congress government's failure to address key promises.

The meeting, expected to be attended by MLAs, MLCs, MPs, district-level party heads, and other key leaders, is expected to be held at Telangana Bhavan over the next couple of weeks. Chandrashekhar Rao is learnt to have already indicated his plans to some senior leaders who met him recently and discussed issues to be taken up at the meeting.

> **Party president to hold high-level meeting with senior leaders to chalk out the future course of action**

The former Chief Minister, who largely took a backseat since the Congress came to power due to his hip replacement surgery, is preparing to directly confront the Congress government. He is reportedly dissatisfied with the Congress government's inability to fulfil its election promises, including the loan waiver and farmer assurance schemes.

(REPORT PAGE 5)

Hyderabad student drowns in Canada lake

CITY BUREAU
Hyderabad

A Hyderabad student who went to pursue higher studies in Canada reportedly drowned in a lake in Toronto while celebrating his birthday along with his elder brother Pranay and friends on Sunday.

Praneeth, a resident of Meerpet, was studying MS from a university in Canada and was staying along with friends. Sunday was his birthday, and to celebrate it, he and his elder brother and four other friends went boating in a lake in Toronto, said Praneeth's father A Ravi.

The group stayed in a cottage and later went for a swim in the lake. While others returned to the shore, Praneeth did not return. The worried friends, after failing to locate him, informed the local emergency services. (SEE PAGE 2)

NO STOPPING

Amid the rising cases of viral fevers across the State, a doctor, Praveen Kumar, along with the hospital staff, crosses the Jampannavagu to reach Maliala village in Mulugu district, where a medical camp was held for the students of government school.

Winged beauties from Europe fly to TG for winter

T KARNAKAR REDDY
Sangareddy

As the monsoon season is nearing its end, several birds from Europe, Northern Asian countries, China and some other Himalayan regions have started to arrive in Telangana and Andhra Pradesh for winter migration.

Several wintering birds, such as the Grey Wagtail, Asian Brown Flycatcher, Greenish Warbler, Montagu's Harrier, Western Marsh Harrier, Tibetan Sand Plover, Isabelline Wheatear, Black Headed bunting, Grey-necked bunting, and many others were sighted in various wildlife sanctuaries across Telangana during the last fortnight.

Isabelline Wheatear and Asian Brown Flycatcher.

Meanwhile, some passage birds, which migrate from Europe to the shorelines of the Bay of Bengal, were also sighted, taking a brief halt at various places in the State.

Seasoned wildlife photographer Sriram Aditya sighted a Tibetan Sand Plover at Pocharam Wildlife Sanctuary in Medak district on Monday. (SEE PAGE 2)

Kejri to meet L-G today, may submit resignation

NEW DELHI: Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal will meet Lt Governor VK Saxena at 4:30 pm on Tuesday, during which he is likely to tender his resignation. Saxena has given Kejriwal appointment for a meeting at 4:30 pm on Tuesday. AAP had earlier said Kejriwal sought time for a meeting with the LG on Tuesday and was likely to tender his resignation. "The CM has sought time from Saxena for a meeting on Tuesday. He is likely to tender his resignation," the party said earlier. (RELATED REPORTS PAGE 7)

Sena MLA offers Rs 11L for chopping Rahul's tongue

MUMBAI: Shiv Sena MLA Sanjay Gaikwad kicked up a row by announcing a Rs 11 lakh reward to anyone chopping off Congress leader Rahul Gandhi's tongue for his remarks on scrapping the reservation system. As the remarks triggered a political firestorm and raised calls for action, police on Monday night registered a case against the Buldhana MLA. "While he was abroad, Rahul Gandhi said that he wanted to finish off the reservation system in India. This exposed the true face of Congress," Gaikwad said. PTI

HYDRAA hits property sales hard

STATE BUREAU
Hyderabad

There have been apprehensions among property buyers in the city ever since the Hyderabad Disaster Response and Assets Protection Agency (HYDRAA) began demolition of illegal structures and with social media users sharing details of structures allegedly located in lake full tank level or buffer zone areas.

As a result, enquiries and property sales have been affected. A few managements are even being forced to issue public statements stating that their properties were not in such encroached or illegal areas.

> **Builders forced to issue public statements stating their properties were not in encroached or illegal areas**

In a public notice issued in newspapers on Monday, property developer Urbanrise, which is constructing 'The World of Joy' G plus 42-floor apartment at Miyapur, clarified that the project was not being developed in the FTL of the Ameenpur Lake nor the buffer zone of the lake. (SEE PAGE 2)

Techie dies after bidding for laddu

CITY BUREAU
Hyderabad

A software engineer died of cardiac arrest hours after bidding for the 'laddu prasadam' during an auction at a Ganesh pandal at Manikonda on Sunday.

Shyam Prasad, a resident of Alkapuri Township, had successfully bid and took the laddu for Rs 15 lakh. Delighted over it, Shyam Prasad danced along with the group at the pandal and went home. Later, Shyam collapsed in the house following which the family members rushed him to the hospital where doctors pronounced him dead. The doctors said Shyam suffered a cardiac arrest.

FORECAST
Generally cloudy sky with light rain or drizzle

Max. tem: 31.2°C
Min. tem: 23.1°C
RH: 55%
Rainfall: Nil

Milad-un-Nabi observed in Hyd

Religious meetings, blood donation and food camps organised

A vendor sells flags and buntings on the occasion of Milad un Nabi in the city at Nampally on Monday. —Photo: Surya Sridhar

CITY BUREAU
HYDERABAD

Milad-un-Nabi, the birth anniversary of Prophet Muhammad, was celebrated on Monday in the city in a grand way. Religious meetings and related events, blood donation and food camps, sapling plantation programmes and other religion related events were organised across the city. The Milad-un-Nabi corresponds to the 12th day of Rabi al Awaal, the third month of Hijri calendar.

A mega blood donation camp was organised at Asafia State Central Library, Afzalgunj, by FOCUS and TSCS. Around 1,000 people turned up to donate blood at the venue. Another camp was organised at Prime Function Hall Mallepally by Congress leader Osman Mohammed Khan. One more camp was organised at Eidgah Mir, Balamrai, Secunderabad.

Similar camps were organised at different places in the city. Blood donation camps were also organised in the neighbouring Vikarabad district.

Religious programmes were held at different mosques and function halls in the city. At the historic Mecca Masjid, a sermon was delivered by Khateeb Mecca Masjid, Hafez-o-Qari Mohammed Rizwan Qureshi and a few thousand people participated in the programme. Similar gatherings were held at different mosques in the city. A few socio-religious organisations conducted quiz competitions for children on topics ranging on different aspects of Islam. The winners were presented awards during functions held locally.

Fruit distribution was conducted at several hospitals in the city where individuals and groups of friends distributed fruits among the patients.

Youngsters in a few areas of the city had illuminated the roads with serial bulbs and put up flags and buntings.

The traders at Chatta Bazaar did a brisk business on Monday.

The procession taken out on the day by the Sunni United Forum of India (SUFI) and other organisations to mark the occasion was postponed to Thursday in view of the final Ganesh idol immersion programme.

Chilkur priest attends Milad blood donation camp

HYDERABAD: In a rare gesture of fostering communal harmony and sending a positive message of inter-faith brotherhood, Chilkur Balaji temple head priest CS Rangarajan along with the temple staff participated in a blood donation drive organised by the Helping Hand Foundation at Masjid-E-Muhammed Hussain in Rajendranagar on the occasion of Milad-un-Nabi.

The blood donation drive was organised to mobilise blood for children suffering from cancer at State MNJ Cancer Hospital. Nearly 100 units of blood are required at the hospital daily, where nearly 2,500 major and 4,000 minor surgeries are done in a year, a press release said.

HHF and Chilkur Balaji temple have been working for the past five years in promoting inter-faith dialogue, communal harmony and peace at a time when increasing polarisation between the majority Hindu community and the principal minority community are frosty and at its lowest ebb.

In Brief

HYDERABAD
World Telugu Consortium

The 2nd international conference of the World Telugu Samiti, 'World Telugu Consortium', was held on a virtual platform with the participation of celebrities, scholars, and speakers from seven countries, including India, America, and New Zealand. Talks on topics from Indian mythology and epics were delivered at the event, presided by Lalitha Ram, founder, World Telugu Samithi, dedicated to the mission of providing Telugu literary service.

HYDERABAD
Graduation day at LIET

Prof Pappula Laxminarayana, Registrar, OU, was the chief guest for the Graduation Day at Lords Institute of Engineering and Technology for the graduates of batch 2020-2024. Principal Dr RK Singh, chairman CA Basha Mohiuddin, secretary Rizwana Begum and vice-chairman Touseef Ahmed addressed the gathering. Degrees were awarded to the graduates and university rankers received special accolades for academic

HYDERABAD
Certification programme

SecurEyes, a cybersecurity firm, has announced the launch of its 12th batch for the CyberSecurity certification programme, an intensive 3-month online course from September 23. Designed to provide participants with cutting-edge skills and knowledge, the programme includes live sessions led by certified cybersecurity professionals who are actively involved in global projects. Students will have 24/7 access to online labs and extensive study materials that cover essential topics.

PM flags off Nagpur–Sec'bad Vande Bharat Express train

CITY BUREAU
Hyderabad

Prime Minister Narendra Modi flagged off the Nagpur–Secunderabad Vande Bharat Express virtually from Ahmedabad on Monday. The Nagpur – Secunderabad Vande Bharat Express is scheduled to arrive at the Secunderabad railway station at 10.45 pm.

Speaking after flagging off the train, the Prime Minister noted that the expansion of the Vande Bharat network in the past 100 days was unprecedented.

15 new routes

"More than 15 new Vande Bharat train routes have been introduced in recent times and more than 125 Vande Bharat trains are already being operated in the country at present. They are enabling better travel for thousands of people every day," he said.

'Ethical practices among industrialists creates credibility'

CITY BUREAU
Hyderabad

Dr Gyanvatsal Swami

Dr. Gyanvatsal Swami, a motivational speaker, social reformer from Akshardham and an eminent saint of the BAPS (Bochasanwasi Akshar Purushottam Sanstha), stressed the need for industrialists to be spiritual in their approach, be empathetic and follow ethical practises.

Speaking at a meeting organised by the Federation of Telangana Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FTCCI) here, he spoke about unethical practices in the profession, and added that it has the power to tarnish talent, willpower, and confidence.

He highlighted that on the other side, being ethical creates credibility and induces a sense of magnetism whereby all necessary resources come naturally to the ethical one. When spirituality gets into management, management evolves to another level, he added.

Suresh Kumar Singhal, president; Ravi Kumar, senior vice-president; Krishna Kumar Maheswari, vice-president of FTCCI; A Prakash, managing committee member and convener of the programme; and others were present.

Tansen unveils exclusive beverages collection

CITY BUREAU
Hyderabad

The highlight was the presence of renowned mixologist Hamish Lindsay who shared his expertise and passion at the event.

Tansen, a fine-dining restaurant renowned for its North-Western Frontier cuisine, has unveiled an exclusive collection of regal drinks to enhance its luxurious dining experience.

This curated collection is designed to elevate the dining experience with a focus on exceptional quality and elegance.

The highlight of the evening was the presence of renowned mixologist Hamish Lindsay who shared his expertise and passion at the event.

The beverage menu, which has been curated by famous mixologist Yangdup Lama, includes specially designed blends such as Jewel Of Tansen, Raag By Tansen, Begum Ki Bazar, and Aaghaaz-E-Shaam, along with other signature beverages.

The evening also featured a specially prepared menu that complemented the new offerings, including appetisers like Bharwa Tikki and Guntur Chicken Tikka, main courses such as Dal Tansen and Patiala Shahi Chicken, and desserts like Biryani and Jalebi Platter. Amar Ohri, owner of Ohri's Group, said, "With our new line of premium beverages, we continue to set new standards in luxury hospitality."

Inorbit unveils The Game Palacio

CITY BUREAU
Hyderabad

Inorbit Malls, a pioneer in the shopping centre space and Hyderabad's ultimate 'Bridge to Luxury,' has announced the opening of The Game Palacio. Located on Level 5 of the mall with an expanse of over 26,146 sft, this cutting-edge entertainment hub marks the first of its kind in Hyderabad and promises to redefine leisure and entertainment in the city. Awarded the most luxurious gaming centre by BCM awards in the Amusement Expo Las Vegas, 2024, The Game Palacio is a leading name in the immersive entertainment space and offers a blend of gourmet dining, boutique bowling, a state-of-the-art gaming arcade, and a chic lounge, a press release said.

Patrons can discover Game Palacio's luxurious offerings such as a4-lane bowling alley, arcade games, VR experiences, trampoline fun, top-notch games like 'Asphalt Legends', 'Fast and Furious', and a lot more. Rohit Gopalani, SVP & Head – Leasing, Marketing & Corporate Communication, Inorbit Malls, said, "We are thrilled to bring one of India's best arcade experiences to Hyderabad through The Game Palacio, which is the first of its kind in the entire region."

Prasuk Jain, founder of Snow World Entertainment, said, "Our goal is to provide a luxurious and exhilarating gaming experience, blending world-class service, cutting edge technology, and unmatched hospitality."

Sufi music evening by Wadalis on Sept 21

CITY BUREAU
Hyderabad

Ustad Puran Chand Wadali and Lakhwinder.

Rivaayat, an evening of Sufi and classical music journey with Ustad Puran Chand Wadali and Lakhwinder Wadali will be held in the city at Shilpakala Vedika, Madhapur, on September 21 at 6.30 pm.

After two decades, the legendary Wadali family returns to Hyderabad for an unforgettable evening of Sufi and classical music. The highly-anticipated performance marks the first time the Wadalis will grace the stage in Hyderabad in over 20 years, making it a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for music lovers in the city. The Wadalis are revered for their mastery of Sufi, classical, and Punjabi folk music, and their performances evoke deep spiritual connection and cultural heritage.

Ustad Puran Chand, the elder maestro, is a torchbearer of the Wadali legacy, known for his soul-stirring voice that has touched audiences worldwide. His son, Lakhwinder Wadali, brings a unique fusion of tradition and modernity, continuing to preserve and expand the rich musical heritage handed down through generations. Together, the Wadalis have become synonymous with iconic tracks like 'Tu Maane Ya Na Maane' and have left an indelible mark on the world of Sufi music and Bollywood.

Tickets for the event are available on BookMyShow.com. The special concert 'Rivaayat: A Musical Journey' is being organised by Vivid Arts and Vivikta Entertainers.

Continuation
from page 1

Hyderabad student drowns in Canada lake

Rescuers, with the help of cops, retrieved the body. Praneeth went to Canada in 2019, completed MS from a university and was looking for a job. The tragic news was conveyed to the family by a friend of Praneeth in the evening. The family then managed to get in touch with Pranay, who told them about the incident.

The local police are investigating the circumstances that led to the incident. The family is in touch with the friends of Praneeth who are coordinating with the Canadian authorities. They have appealed to the State government to help them get back the body of their son.

HYDRAA hits property sales hard

This was after a video alleging that the project was illegal was posted on social media. The notice from Urbanrise said the publisher of the video had not confirmed any of its contents with Urbanrise. "The content of the video is completely malicious, misinformative, misleading and without any material facts," the public notice issued by the group said.

Amidst these situations, builders and realtors are admitting that there were apprehensions among property buyers. Any small post on social media was leading to different interpretations, and accordingly, enquiries and sales were affected, a CREDAI Hyderabad member said.

Reminding about a HYDRAA visit to a project recently at Patancheru, the CREDAI member said despite officials clearly presenting all the permission copies, locals were complaining that the project was coming up on industrial land.

"Many posts are being circulated about different projects on social media, and naturally, there are apprehensions among buyers. This apprehensive mode could continue for another four to five months," he said.

Another CREDAI Hyderabad member said quite a few managements were displaying their project details and lake areas, if any nearby, at their sales offices. The posters indicating the FTL and buffer zone details were being displayed promptly at the offices, he said.

Admitting that there was an impact of the HYDRAA demolition on enquiries and sales, the CREDAI member, however, said the ambiguity was temporary and things would settle down shortly.

Winged beauties from Europe fly to TG for winter

The bird usually heads towards the Eastern shorelines in Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu after a brief halt in Telangana. Another seasoned birder, Rajashekhar Muddam, captured an Isabelline Wheatear at Yenkatala in Vikarabad district.

Speaking to 'Telangana Today', well-known wildlife photographer Sriram Reddy, who sighted an Asian Brown Flycatcher at Narsapur, said as many as 280 bird species had migrated to Telangana or were sighted while passing through Telangana so far in history from various parts of the globe throughout the year.

Most of these birds will migrate only during the winter, he said, adding that they migrate to India to escape from cold weather and return to their native places after the harsh winter. Lakhs of migrant birds will be seen across Telangana during winter, considered the best time for wildlife photographers and birders to go on birding trips.

Another assassination bid on Trump

He has shown pro-Ukraine views into his public statements because of which he was interviewed by several news organisations, including 'The New York Times' and Semafor in 2023. The White House has said that both President Joe Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris have been briefed about the incident.

"The President and Vice President have been briefed about the security incident at the Trump International Golf Course, where former President Trump was golfing. They are relieved to know that he is safe. They will be kept regularly updated by their team," the White House said. President Biden on Sunday condemned "political violence" following the second assassination attempt on former President Trump. The Democratic president said he had been briefed on the incident and the federal investigation into the matter. Soon after the gunshots were heard at the golf club in Florida, where Trump was golfing, the FBI said that it was "investigating what appears to be an attempted assassination of former President Trump". The incident took place at roughly around 1:30 pm local time when Secret Service agents spotted a person with an AK-47 near the golf course. Agents opened fire at him. "Officials believe the shots fired at Trump International Golf Club were intended for former President Donald Trump, according to sources familiar on the matter," CNN reported. "Sources said the Secret Service spotted a suspicious individual on the Trump International Golf Course West Palm Beach and opened fire when agents saw what appeared to be the barrel of a gun," the *New York Post* reported. "Just spoke with President Trump. He is one of the strongest people I've ever known. He's in good spirits and he is more resolved than ever to save our country," said Senator Lindsey Graham after speaking with Trump. JD Vance, Trump's running mate, said on X that he spoke with Trump before the news was public and that the former president "was, amazingly, in good spirits." AP

Hussain Sagar abuzz with festive fervour

Many throng lake for idol immersions ahead of Ganesh Chaturthi grand finale

CITY BUREAU
HYDERABAD

As the city prepares for a grand finale of the Ganesh Chaturthi festivities on Tuesday, the atmosphere at Hussain Sagar is already abuzz with excitement on Monday. A day before the final idol immersions, a large number of Ganesh idols were being immersed in the lake. Citizens from across the city reached the water body to catch a glimpse of the immersions.

Though the final immersion day i.e., Tuesday, is traditionally the most spectacular, the day before witnessed a significant number of families and smaller community groups arriving at the lake to immerse their Ganesh idols. Groups of people, from families with children to elderly devotees, thronged the lake to perform the 'nimajjanam' rituals to avoid overwhelming crowds expected on the last day.

Idols of all sizes, from small clay figures to mid-sized community idols, were being carried to the lake on vehicles adorned with flowers and colourful lights and loud music.

Meanwhile, in view of the final immersion day, the Hyderabad Police, GHMC along with other departments and NGOs have made elaborate arrangements to ensure the safety of devotees and smooth conduct of the immersion process.

Traffic diversions are already in place around Tank Bund, with dedicated routes for vehicles carrying idols. The police force is out in full strength, managing crowds and maintaining order, while volunteers assisting devotees in completing the immersion in an orderly manner. Surveillance cameras and drone are also monitoring the immersions.

A Ganesh idol being immersed in Hussain Sagar in the city on Monday. — Photo: Anand Dharmana

A man dressed as Lord Ganesha interacts with people at Tank Bund. — Photo: Surya Sridhar

Over 15,000 GHMC staffers roped in: Amrapali

HYDERABAD: Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) Commissioner Amrapali Kata on Monday inspected the arrangements at Necklace Road and said all steps needed for smooth conduct of Ganesh idol immersion on Tuesday were in place.

To ensure the idol immersion was carried out without any hiccups, around 15,000 staff members and officials drafted from the different wings of the civic body including sanitation, engineering and others, were deployed round the clock in three shifts, she said. Several coordination meetings with officials, festival committee members and other departments were held to plan and review the arrangements and address shortfalls, if any. These meetings were held at different levels – from zonal to the head office, to ensure robust arrangements for devotees participating in the idol immersion processions. Across the city, 10 control rooms apart from command control manned by additional commissioner-level officers were operational in three shifts to monitor the situation. Arrangements for idol immersion have been made at 73 ponds and lakes across the city and so far, 468 cranes were in place. Amrapali urged the devotees not to shower confetti and paper streamers during the procession as they make the job of cleaning tough for sanitation staff.

RTC to run over 600 special buses

HYDERABAD: In view of the Ganesh idol immersions and Shobha Yatra, the Telangana State Road Transport Corporation (TGSRTC) will operate nearly 600 special buses from various routes in the city to Hussain Sagar and its surroundings on September 17. TGSRTC Managing Director VC Sajjanar said the special buses will be operated on the day to facilitate hassle-free movement of devotees. He said 15 to 30 buses had been arranged from each bus depot across the 30 depots under the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation limits. Passengers were advised to contact Rathifile bus station at 9959226154 and Koti bus station at 9959226160 for details related to the special bus services.

Mystery shrouds woman's death

CITY BUREAU
Hyderabad

A 23-year-old woman died under suspicious circumstances at a hotel in Gachibowli on Sunday.

Golla Shruthi (23), a staff nurse and native of Mahabubnagar, checked into Red Stone Hotel along with three others - Jeevan, Venkat and Mounika, on Saturday. The group booked two rooms in the hotel.

Found hanging

On Sunday morning, while the three went out, Shruthi stayed back in the hotel. "After the three persons returned, they knocked on the door of Shruthi's room, but she did not respond.

Venkat then informed the receptionist about the same. After the receptionist opened the door using a duplicate key, they found the woman hanging from the ceiling fan," said Gachibowli Sub-Inspector P Shobhan Babu.

The police reached the hotel and shifted the body to mortuary for postmortem examination.

A case was registered. The police took a friend of the woman into custody and are questioning him.

Jani Master booked for sexual assault

CITY BUREAU
Hyderabad

The woman alleged that the choreographer sexually assaulted her multiple times in Hyderabad and Mumbai

Well-known choreographer Jani Master was booked by the Raidurgam police for allegedly sexually assaulting and threatening a woman assistant choreographer.

The victim, a native of Madhya Pradesh, had approached the Raiduram police and lodged a complaint against Shaik Jani Basha alias Jani Master alleging he had sexually assaulted her multiple times. The case has been transferred to the Narsingi police for further investigation.

The victim had alleged that Jani Master on numerous instances had sexually assaulted her in the city and Mumbai during their visit for film-related works. She alleged the suspect had threatened her of dire consequences if she revealed about it to anyone.

The police invoked sections 376 (2)(n) (rape), criminal intimidation (506) and voluntarily causing hurt (323) of the IPC against him.

Jani Master has worked with several actors in South India. Meanwhile, the Jana Sena Party placed him under suspension following the case against him.

Scolded by father, student hangs self

CITY BUREAU
Hyderabad

An intermediate student died by suicide at his house on Sunday after his father scolded him.

Ashok (18), who was pursuing his intermediate course from a private college, along with his friends went to immerse a Ganesh idol at a local lake on Sunday. He returned home late in the night.

As the boy did not inform his parents about going out and being late, he was scolded by his father on returning home. Ashok reportedly slipped into depression over the issue and hanged himself to death in his room.

On information the Suraram police reached the spot and shifted the body to mortuary for postmortem examination. A case was registered.

Docs remove pin from infant's stomach

CITY BUREAU
Hyderabad

Ankura Hospital team successfully saved the life of a three-month-old infant who accidentally swallowed an open safety pin.

The incident occurred when the infant's six-year-old sibling, during playtime, inadvertently caused the baby to ingest the sharp object. The infant was examined by Dr Parijat Ram Tripathi, Consultant Paediatric Gastroenterologist and Hepatologist, and a radiographic examination revealed the open safety pin had pierced the infant's stomach lining, a life-threatening condition that required urgent intervention.

Within 30 minutes of the infant's arrival, Dr Tripathi and his team prepared for a critical endoscopic procedure and extracted the 2-cm safety pin, lodged dangerously in the stomach lining. This approach not only reduced the need for open surgery but also minimised the risks associated with more invasive procedures, such as infection and extended recovery time.

The infant, who was monitored for 24 hours post-procedure to check for any complications, exhibited positive recovery signs, including normal feeding, no fever, and no signs of infection, a press release said. Following this period of observation, the infant was discharged in stable condition, much to the relief of the anxious parents.

Dr Tripathi said timely action was essential in averting severe complications and added, "Parents must remain vigilant.

IBS case authors win big

CITY BUREAU
Hyderabad

Case authors of the ICFAI Business School (IBS), Hyderabad made a clean sweep at global case writing competition – The Case for Women, 2024, by winning all the three awards.

The event aims at developing teaching case material featuring women as protagonists.

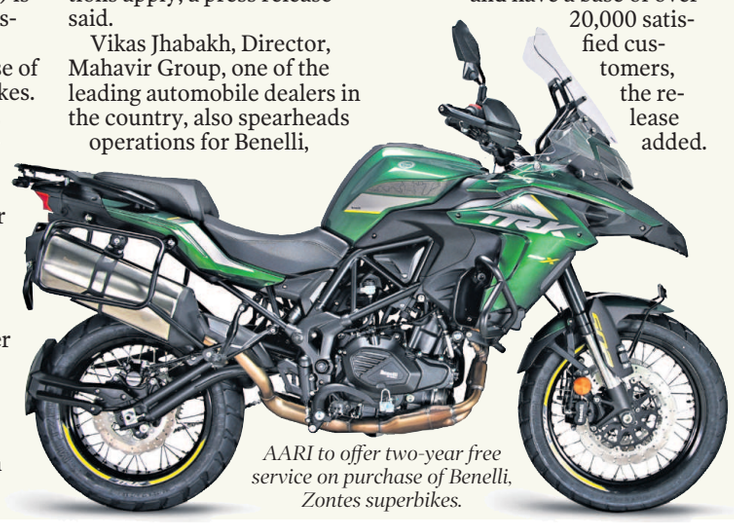
Adishwar unveils festive offers

CITY BUREAU
Hyderabad

Adishwar Auto Ride India Pvt Ltd (AARI) is gearing up for the festive season with exclusive service benefits on purchase of Benelli and Zontes superbikes. For adventure seekers, this festive season offers an unbeatable chance to own Benelli's iconic TRK model range, with two-year complimentary service worth Rs 30,000. The prices start at Rs 5.85 lakh.

Zontes, known for its innovative design and top-tier features, is also part of the festive celebrations. Customers can now avail a two-years complimentary service worth Rs 20,000 on the purchase of Zontes' 350cc model range inclusive of 350R, 350X, GK350, 350T, and 350T ADV. The prices start at Rs 2.79 lakh. Terms and conditions apply, a press release said.

Vikas Jhabakh, Director, Mahavir Group, one of the leading automobile dealers in the country, also spearheads operations for Benelli, Keeway, Moto Vault through Adishwar Auto Ride India. These brands are successfully operating over 60 dealerships and have a base of over 20,000 satisfied customers, the release added.



AARI to offer two-year free service on purchase of Benelli, Zontes superbikes.

In Brief

HYDERABAD
One killed in mishap

A watchman died while his wife sustained injuries in a road accident at Dundigal on city outskirts on Monday. Rakesh Rai (33), a native of Bihar, and his wife stayed at Bowrampet in Dundigal. He worked as a watchman at a private company. According to the police, on Monday morning, Rakesh along with his wife was going on a motorcycle from Shahpur Nagar towards Bowrampet when a ready-mix concrete truck coming from Miyapur hit the motorcycle near Bowrampet Kaman. "Rakesh fell on the road and came under the wheel of the truck and died on the spot while his wife sustained injuries, and was shifted to hospital," said the police.

HYDERABAD
Bike thieves nabbed

The Hyderabad Commissioner's Task Force (West) team caught two bike thieves and recovered eight bikes from them on Monday. Palla Dharma Teja alias Sunny (27) and Sirivella Gurappa alias Sampath (23), both natives of Kadapa district in AP, travelled to Hyderabad regularly and indulged in stealing of vehicles parked at public places, said Task Force DCP YVS Sudheendra. On information, the Task Force team caught them and recovered the bikes that the duo had stolen from Banjara Hills, Madhura Nagar, Kacheguda, Domalguda and SR Nagar in the city and three other police stations in AP. Both were involved in similar cases in AP.

HYDERABAD
Last date extended

The last date of online self-reporting and reporting to the colleges under special drive phase of DOST-2024 has been extended up to September 19. The Telangana Council of Higher Education (TGCHE), Commissioner of Collegiate Education (CCE) Convener, Degree Online Services, Telangana (DOST) in a press release said the decision to extend the last date was taken in the interest of students.

HYDERABAD
IETE award for OU prof

Prof Perumalla Naveen Kumar, Director (Infra and Estate) and Professor of ECE, OU, has received the Prof K Sreenivasan Memorial IETE National Award 2024 at 67th IETE Technical Convention, IES University, Madhya Pradesh, for his contributions in teaching, research and innovation in the field of Electronics and Communication Engineering. He has contributed more than 120 research publications and completed projects of national importance.

OMEGA PG COLLEGE-MBA
(APPROVED BY AICTE and Affiliated to O.U)
Edulabad(V), Ghatkesar(M), Medchal (D). Ph: 9246805933/9032011205
TS ICET-CATEGORY-B ADMISSIONS 2024-2025

COURSE: MBA	Intake: 180	'B' Cat. Seats: 54	ICET Code: OMEG
COURSE: MCA	Intake: 180	'B' Cat. Seats: 54	ICET Code: OMEG

Application Forms and Instructions to Candidates can be obtained from the College Office Filled Applications shall be submitted in the college office. Admissions will Be made as per the guidelines of TGCHE and Govt of Telangana State.
Sd/- Principal

OMEGA PG COLLEGE-MCA
(APPROVED BY AICTE and Affiliated to O.U)
Edulabad(V), Ghatkesar(M), Medchal (D). Ph:9912988863 / 9032011205
TS ICET-CATEGORY-B ADMISSIONS 2024-2025

COURSE: MBA	Intake: 180	'B' Cat. Seats: 54	ICET Code: OMGA
COURSE: MCA	Intake: 60	'B' Cat. Seats: 18	ICET Code: OMGA
COURSE: MCA (Self Finance)	Intake: 120	'B' Cat. Seats: 36	ICET Code: OMGASF
COURSE: MBA (Self Finance)	Intake: 60	'B' Cat. Seats: 18	ICET Code: OMGASF

Application Forms and Instructions to Candidates can be obtained from the College Office Filled Applications shall be submitted in the college office. Admissions will Be made as per the guidelines of TGCHE and Govt of Telangana State.
Sd/- Principal

VIDYA JYOTHI INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
AN AUTONOMOUS INSTITUTION
(Accredited by NAAC A+ & NBA, Approved by AICTE, New Delhi, Permanently Affiliated to JNTUH)
Aziznagar Gate, CB Post Chilkur Road, Hyd-75, Ph: 08413-235300 www.vjit.ac.in
ADMISSION NOTIFICATION FOR "B" CATEGORY SEATS IN MBA
Applications are invited for B-Category seats for the academic year 2024-25

Course	Intake	B-Category Seats
MBA	120	36

The students can take application form from the college website / college office and submit with all supporting documents on or before 24-09-2024. Application fee Rs. 1,000/- . The admissions will be made as per the orders of the Govt. of Telangana and guidelines given by the competent authority.
Sd/- Principal
Engineering Engineers

VIDYA JYOTHI INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
AN AUTONOMOUS INSTITUTION
(Accredited by NAAC A+ & NBA, Approved by AICTE, New Delhi, Permanently Affiliated to JNTUH)
Aziznagar Gate, CB Post Chilkur Road, Hyd-75, Ph: 08413-235300 www.vjit.ac.in
ADMISSION NOTIFICATION FOR "B" CATEGORY SEATS IN M.TECH
Applications are invited for B-Category seats for the academic year 2024-25
M.Tech: CSE-5 | EMD SYS-7 | EPS-7 | CAD/CAM-7 | STRU.ENG-7
The students can take application form from the college website / college office and submit with all supporting documents on or before 24-09-2024. Application fee Rs. 1,000/- . The admissions will be made as per the orders of the Govt. of Telangana and guidelines given by the competent authority.
Engineering Engineers

MALLA REDDY ENGINEERING COLLEGE AND MANAGEMENT SCIENCES
AN UGC AUTONOMOUS INSTITUTION
Accredited by NBA (CSE, ECE, IT & EEE)
(Approved by AICTE, New Delhi and Affiliated to JNTU Hyderabad)
Kistapur, Medchal, Medchal-Malkajgiri Dist-501401. http://www.mrem.ac.in, Ph.: 9346009393, 9346009494
NOTIFICATION FOR ADMISSIONS INTO MBA- I YEAR
UNDER CATEGORY "B" SEATS (2024-2025)

Courses	INTAKE	B- CATEGORY	ICET CODE:
MBA	240	72	MREM

Applications are available in the college office on all working days from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM or Application Form can be downloaded from College Website. The application fee for registration is Rs.1000/- Please visit www.mrem.ac.in. The last date for the submission of filled in application is 28.09.2024 along with relevant documents and the eligibility criteria for admission will be as per the Govt. of Telangana (Tuition Fee is Rs. 40,000/-)
Sd/- Principal

MALLA REDDY ENGINEERING COLLEGE AND MANAGEMENT SCIENCES
AN UGC AUTONOMOUS INSTITUTION
Accredited by NBA (CSE, ECE, IT & EEE)
(Approved by AICTE, New Delhi and Affiliated to JNTU Hyderabad)
Kistapur, Medchal, Medchal-Malkajgiri Dist-501401. http://www.mrem.ac.in, Ph.: 9346009393, 9346009494
NOTIFICATION FOR ADMISSIONS INTO M.TECH- I YEAR
UNDER CATEGORY "B" SEATS (2024-2025)

Courses	INTAKE	B- CATEGORY	PGECET CODE:
M.Tech (Structural Engineering)	18	5	MREM1

Applications are available in the college office on all working days from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM or Application Form can be downloaded from College Website. The application fee for registration is Rs.1000/- Please visit www.mrem.ac.in. The last date for the submission of filled in application is 28.09.2024 along with relevant documents and the eligibility criteria for admission will be as per the Govt. of Telangana (Tuition Fee is Rs. 57,000/-)
Sd/- Principal

In Brief

SANGAREDDY

Man drowns in lake

A man drowned while immersing a Ganesh idol in a lake at Nagasanpally in Sadasivapet mandal late on Saturday night. The victim was identified as Sattaiah (37), a resident of the village. His body was retrieved from the water body on Monday and a case was registered.

KHAMMAM

2 kids meet watery grave

Two minors drowned in Sitarama project canal at Buggapadu village of Sathupalli mandal in the district on Monday. The deceased, Madipalli Jithender Kumar and Pamarthi Shashank, both 10 years old and studying in class III, went out to play in view of holidays. They entered the canal to swim but as they could not gauge the depth of water they drowned. The locals who spotted the boys tried to rescue them but they had already met a watery grave. The local police registered a case in connection with the incident and are probing.

'Power'less weavers suffer despite work

Restrictions on power subsidy to looms hits them hard

STATE BUREAU
RAJANNA-SIRCILLA

Weavers in Sircilla, who have been facing difficulties due to lack of government orders, have got an 'Pongal' order from the Tamil Nadu government. However, with recent restrictions on power supply to powerloom units, they are not able to accept all the orders coming their way, with most weavers accepting only about 10 to 15 per cent orders.

From Tamil Nadu, the government, which distributes sarees and lungis to people on the occasion of Sankranti (Pongal) festival, usually gives orders to weavers in different places. Sircilla weavers usually get orders this way every year. However, this year, they could not take many orders, with orders for only 30 lakh sarees being accepted.

They are citing restrictions on power subsidy as the main reason for staying away from taking more orders, Mutually Aided Cooperative Societies (MACS) Associations general secretary Polu Shankar said.

In order to extend support to the weaving community, the previous State governments had supplied power to weaving units on a 50 percent subsidy considering the units as cottage industry. The power subsidy, which commenced in 2001, continued till the recent past. Under Category-IV, each unit of power was charged Rs 4. Of that, weavers used to pay Rs 2 and the remaining amount was paid by the government.

According to the government order issued in 2001, the subsidy was applicable only for ten powerlooms (up to 10 HP). However, the condition was not strictly implemented in the wake of starvation deaths and suicides among the weaving community in Sircilla.

10 HP Rule

This changed after the current Congress government came to power, with an order issued on May 20, 2024, instructing officials to implement the 10 HP rule without fail. As a result, almost all the weaving units came under the third category from the fourth category since all the units had more than 10 powerlooms. This was forcing weavers to pay Rs 8.50 per unit of power.

Since almost all weaving units have more than ten powerlooms, weavers were facing trouble running the units by paying such a big amount towards power bills, Shankar said and requested the State government to enhance power subsidy to 20 powerlooms (up to 20 HP).

Caught in crisis

- No government orders for weavers
- Restrictions on power supply to powerloom units are the reasons
- Most weavers accepting only 10 to 15% orders

- Power is given to weaving units on a **50 percent subsidy**.
- Weavers used to pay **Rs 2** and the remaining amount was paid by the government.
- Though the subsidy was only for units with **10 powerlooms,** it was extended to all.
- Congress govt ordered to implement the rule strictly.
- Weavers with more than 10 powerlooms are forced to pay **Rs 8.50 per unit** of power.
- All weaving units have more than ten powerlooms.

Harish holds CM responsible for deteriorating edu system

STATE BUREAU
Hyderabad

Former Minister and senior BRS MLA T Harish Rao on Monday held Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy responsible for the deteriorating condition of the education system and welfare hostels for SC, ST, BC and minority students in the State. Stating that the future of Telangana's students and the credibility of its education system were at risk, he demanded urgent intervention to prevent further harm.

In an open letter to the Chief Minister, Harish blamed the Congress government for mismanagement, reversing the progress achieved during the BRS regime, which had strengthened government schools and welfare residential educational institutions. He pointed out that nearly 1,900 schools had shut down in just nine months of the Congress rule, depriving thousands of students of access to basic education.

"Of 26,287 government schools, nearly 20,000 are in dire condition," he said, stating that around 1,800 were completely empty and many others operating with less than 30 students. He warned that the future of Telangana's children was at stake and demanded for reopening of the schools by appointing Vidya Volunteers.

The former Minister criticised the State government for its negligence towards welfare hostels, where students were suffering due to unhygienic conditions, food poisoning and even bites of snakes and rats. "Over 715 students have been hospitalised this year alone, and more than 40 lost lives," he noted, slamming the State administration for its inaction.

In his letter, Harish outlined a 15-point demand list, including reopening closed schools, appointing teachers, reviving the suspended Chief Minister's Breakfast Scheme, clearing pending mid-day meals bills and paying eight months of pending salaries to hostel staff. He also urged immediate action on providing basic amenities such as sanitation, drinking water and uniforms to students in government schools. He also demanded that the government pay diet charges, distribute pending uniforms and provide essential supplies such as bedsheets and shoes to hostel students.

TG aims to add 40,000 MW to renewable energy capacity: Bhatti

STATE BUREAU
Hyderabad

Deputy Chief Minister and Energy Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka said the State has set a target to add 40,000 megawatt to its renewable energy capacity by 2035.

Addressing the 4th Global Renewable Energy Investor's Meet and Expo (REINVEST) in Gandhinagar, Gujarat, on Monday, Bhatti said Telangana was developing a comprehensive renewable energy (RE) policy to ensure sustainable, reliable and affordable power, promote renewable energy projects and attract private investments.

The new RE policy includes investment incentives such as tax benefits and subsidies, single-window clearances, transparent resource allocation and procurement guidelines, a robust infrastructure plan for transmission and grid connectivity, he said, adding that the State was also promoting partnerships with research institutions and incentives for RE manufacturers. With over 300 days of sunshine, Telangana had an estimated solar potential of approximately 26.4 GW, he said.

Log on for more Local and Global news
www.telanganatoday.com

Protest at Gandhi Bhavan

STATE BUREAU
Hyderabad

As the Congress gears up for Cabinet expansion and filling nominated posts, demands are being made from different communities to give due representation for them. The National Yadava Rights Struggle Committee staged a protest at Gandhi Bhavan demanding that their community members be given a Cabinet berth, besides an MLC position.

Discom artisans want to be recognised as permanent staff

STATE BUREAU
Hyderabad

Over 23,000 artisans working in the four State-run power utilities have expressed displeasure over the State government's attitude towards them and want it to recognise them as permanent employees. They have also demanded that the government fill vacant posts of linemen with artisans.

The artisans are angry that the government was recruiting junior linemen and not promoting them as junior linemen even though they perform the same duties. They fear that if new linemen are appointed, they won't get promotions.

Recently, the Northern Power Distribution Company of Telangana Limited (TGNPDCL) issued notifications to fill a total of 2,260 vacancies for AE (Electrical & Civil), Junior Lineman and Sub-Engineer posts. Of them, 2,212 vacancies were for Junior Lineman. Similarly, the TGSPDCL also issued notifications to fill 1,553 lineman vacancies. Telangana Vidyut Artisans Joint Action Committee chairman L Eshwar Rao said the government was recruiting junior linemen, junior assistants and other posts while continuing the artisan system causing huge loss to them. He demanded that the government fill all vacant posts of linemen with artisans as they have been performing the same duty for years. "The artisans continue in the same post till retirement as there is no scope for promotion in the present system. We should be given designations such as junior line assistants, sub-engineers and junior plant attendants, instead of artisans," he said.

Artisans working in TRANSCO, GENCO, SPDCL and NPDCL claimed that they were deprived of the benefits provided to private employees, contract employees and government employees. They complained that as the artisan workers don't fall under any of three categories, they were deprived of pay scales, pensions and other benefits, resulting in their lives and futures being left in the doldrums. Their salary is less as compared to other regular employees and the service rules, too, are different.

Passenger dies of illness on train

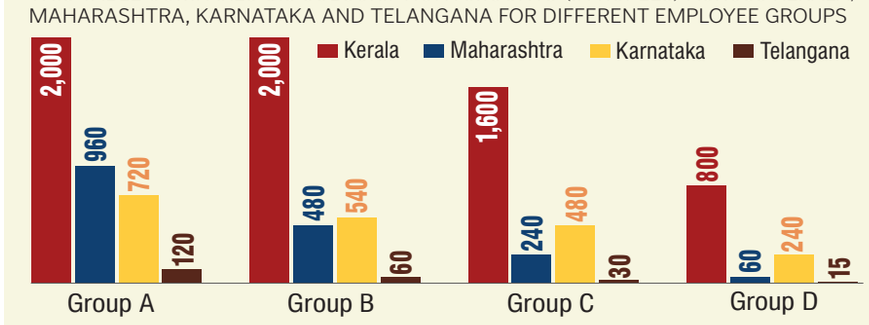
STATE BUREAU
Warangal

A 46-year-old passenger who boarded the Chennai Hazrat Nizamuddin Duronto Express in Vijayawada on Monday reportedly died of illness, when the train was at Warangal railway station. Vishwambhar developed uneasiness and the co-passengers informed the railway authorities. Warangal Station Master immediately alerted 108. However, the health officials, who attended Vishwambhar on arrival, declared him dead.

Stagnant premiums impact govt employee benefits

GIS subscriptions

THIS TABLE COMPARES GIS SUBSCRIPTION AMOUNTS (IN RUPEES) ACROSS KERALA, MAHARASHTRA, KARNATAKA AND TELANGANA FOR DIFFERENT EMPLOYEE GROUPS



HYDERABAD

Lack of proper understanding of the Group Insurance Scheme by many government employees, mostly lower-level staff and Drawing and Disbursing officers, is leading to instances where employees are suffering huge losses due to incorrect deductions of group premiums.

Before we delve deep into the subject, here is a brief background to the issue:

The Andhra Pradesh State Employees Group Insurance Scheme was introduced through GO No. 293, Finance and Planning Department, dated 8.10.1984, replacing the previously existing Family Benefit Fund. The goal of this scheme was to provide financial assistance to the families of deceased employees at a minimal cost and to ensure financial security upon retirement.

Key Features

Membership: All government, Panchayat Raj, and municipal employees in service as on 1.11.1984, as well as work-charged employees who have completed 10 years of government service, and those appointed after 1.11.1984 are members of this scheme.

Grouping: Members are divided into four groups (A, B, C, and D) based on maximum limit of their pay scale.

Premium: Group A pays 8 units, B pays 4 units, C pays 2 units, and D pays 1 unit as monthly membership fees.

Premium Rates: Initially, each unit was valued at Rs 10. However, this was increased to Rs 15 per unit through GO No. 367, Finance and Planning Department, dated 15.11.1994. Of this, Rs 4.50 is contributed to the insurance fund and Rs 10.50 to the savings fund.

Newly Joined: Employees joining in months other than November must pay a special premium for the remaining months of that year. Promotions: Changes in group membership due to promotions take effect from the following November.

Death Benefits: Upon the death of an employee, their family receives a sum equal to the number of units they were paying multiplied by a certain amount, along with their savings and accrued interest.

Retirement/Resignation: Upon retirement or resignation, the employee receives their savings fund with interest.

Recovery of Premiums: Drawing officers are responsible for recovering membership premiums from employees' salaries.

No Withdrawals or Loans: No withdrawals or loans are allowed from the insurance or savings funds.

Nomination: Employees must submit nomination forms (Forms 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, or 7) for themselves and their families.

Points to remember:

- Employees must record their membership details in their service books.
- Government reserves the right to change interest rates.
- Premiums must be recovered even during leave without pay.
- In essence, the Group Insurance Scheme provides a safety net for government employees and their families in the event of death or retirement.

This is how employees put to loss: Despite the establishment of the Group Insurance Scheme for the benefit of employees and teachers, the subscription or units associated with this scheme have not been increased over time. As a result, the amount received by a deceased employee remains unchanged.

For example, if a person paying a subscription of Rs 15 dies, they receive Rs 15,000, and similarly for Rs 30 or Rs 60 subscriptions, the payouts are Rs 30,000 and Rs 60,000 respectively, with a maximum of Rs 1,20,000. While the subscription for this scheme is revised for every five years in other states, the subscription for the Group Insurance Scheme has not been increased in Telangana and the then Andhra Pradesh. As a result, the deceased employees are not receiving the expected benefits.

The subscription was increased last in 1994 and had remained unchanged for the past 30 years. Although a pay revision commission is constituted every five years, none of the five pay revision commissions between 1998 and 2018 recommended an increase in the subscription for the group insurance scheme.

However, in many states of the country, group insurance subscriptions are increased every five years. Currently, the subscriptions for group insurance schemes in some states are as follows:

— Chilappagari Manohar

(The author is a retired government employee. He can be contacted on 96406-75288)

CLASSIFIEDS

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Savitha Bai R/o. 4-3-17, Kowkoor, Alwal, Bolarum, Medchal, T.S-500010 Changed My Name As **Heerekar Sabitha** W/o. Herekar Kishanlal Neeladhar. [TT-PRASAD]

I, VENKAT RAO, S/o. Venkateswaralu, R/o. Prasanth Nagar, Uppal, Hyd- 500039. Changed my name as **THANNIRU VENKAT RAO.** For Future purposes [TT-11949]

I, AMANIA K MURALI D/o. VARSHA JAGAN MOHAN RAO R/o. 8-3-222C/18, A-65, Near Saradhi Studios, Madhura Nagar, Hyd-500038. TS, changed my Name as **KANKIPATI AMANIA MURALI** D/o. VARSHA JAGAN MOHAN RAO. [TT-8109]

I, Krishna Mohan Susarla R/o. 9-35/B, P.No. 115-C, Ravindra Nagar Cly, Habsiguda, Hyd, TS 500007 has changed my name to **Susarla Venkata Krishna Mohan** S/o. Dakshina Moorthy Susarla for all future purposes [TT-8109]

I, PASEDLA ANJANEYULU Resident of: F.No: 202, JYOTHI TOWERS, JJ NAGAR, OLD ALWAL, MEDCHAL- 500010. TG CHANGED MY NAME TO NEW NAME: **PASEDLA AJAY** S/o. PASEDLA RAJAIAH [TT-8109]

I, Ratik Agarwal S/o Pankaj Agarwal R/o No 3-4-174/aF/8, Ambience Fort Hyderguda, Spencer Lane, Rajendranagar, have changed my name to **Ratik Kumar Agarwal** for all purposes [TT-11933]

LOST

I, Vanam Aruna W/o. Vanam Govardhan R/o. H.No. 5-193/ 38, Lumbini Hills, Pedda Amberpet, Hayath Nagar, Ranga Reddy Dist, TG. I have Lost my original Passport No H4126754 issue dated 05-062009 is used at Hyderabad, data expiry on 04-06-2019, while shifting my house from LB Nagar to Hayathnagar on 20-08-2024 if any found please **contact: 9493437211** [TT-11298]

I, M Naresh Kumar, R/o. 66A, Kondapur, Hyderabad, lost my passport (no: K4734182) in Gachibowli, Hyderabad on 04-9-2024. finder pl **contact: 9618967375.** [TT-11299]

I, Guduru Santosh Aditya Reddy S/o Guduru Pratap Reddy R/o 11-13-1002, Plot No. 29 Road No 2 Green Hills Colony, Kothapet, Saroornagar, Ranga Reddy-35, TS,. Lost my Original Passport No. N0491207 while traveling from Kothapet Omini Hospital to Green Hills Colony Kothapet. **+91 80743 87772** [TT-11753]

CHANGE OF NAME

I, SAROJA KOTTURU D/o. SANKAR RAO R/o Flat no 201, Opal Square apartment, Mayuri nagar, Miyapur - 500049, have changed my name to **SHARON ROJA KOTTURU** for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 14-09-2024 at HYDERABAD

LOST OF CERTIFICATE

I, G. SRIKANTH resident of chikkadapally lost my original B.A (Economics) certificate, issued by SHOHBIT UNIVERSITY on 6th sep 2024.while travelling by auto. if any one found

Please Call
9440453218

NOTICE

Readers are advised to make appropriate enquiries while responding to advertisements in these columns Telangana Publications Pvt. Ltd. does not vouch for any claims made by the Advertisers. The Printer, Publisher, Editor and Owner of Telangana Publications Pvt. Ltd. Shall not be held responsible / liable for any consequences, in case such claims are found to be false.

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Public in general are hereby informed that my client **Akthar Bakash,** W/o. Late. Rashid Baksh, aged about 60 years, Occ: Business, r/o.14-5-226, Chudi Bazar, Hyderabad-12 have entered into an oral agreement of sale for the purchase of all that property comprising of Muncipal bearing No. 14-7-210 to 14-7-227, admeasuring 830.25 Sq.Yards situated at Chudi Bazar, Hyderabad is bounded by North: Chudi Bazar Road, South: Neighbours Property, East: Neighbours Property and private passage, West: Road, from its lawful owners **1) Pankaj Sankhla,** S/o. Roop Karan Sankhla, aged about 39 years, Occupation: Business, **2) Pawan Kumar Sankla,** S/o. Roop Karan Sankhla, aged about 40 years, Occupation: Business, **3) Chandrakantha Sankhla** W/o. Roop Karan Sankhla, aged about 60 years, Occupation: House wife, all are r/o: Plot No. 178, Samudra Residency, Flat No.101 & 102, Shahstripuramm Mailarevpalli, K.V. Ranga Reddy, T.S. and paid an advance sale consideration amount to them. If any person or persons are having claim or interest or right in the above said schedule property they may come and contact along with the original and Xerox copies of documents within (7) days from the date of publication of this public notice on the below mentioned address, failing which my client will proceed for it registration.

Sd/- **DINESH JAISWAL**
VIKAS RAJ JAISWAL
Advocates
Off: 14-8-23, Chudi Bazar, Begum Bazar, Hyderabad.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Under the instructions of my client, **Mr. Vallem Chaithanya and Mrs. B.Sujatha,** this notice is hereby given to the general public that my client is the owner of the property being All that the House on Plot No.35/B, in Sy.No. 645,648, admeasuring 140 Sq.Yds, with a total plinth area of 1881 Sq.Fts, (Ground + First Floors) roof covered with R.C.C situated at Ameenpur Village and Mandal, Sangareddy District; having acquired the same vide a Registered Agreement of Sale cum General Power of Attorney bearing Doc. No: 45340 of 2019 dated 22.10.2019 from Mr.D.Adinarayana, who in turn purchased the same vide a Registered Sale Deed bearing document no. 9222 of 2008 dated 03.07.2008 from Mrs. K.Ankamma; who in turn has purchased the same vide Registered Sale Deed bearing doc no. 23463 of 2007 dated 27.12.2007 from Mrs. V.Lakshmi

It is informed to the general public that my client, has lost/misplaced the original link document of the property i.e Registered Sale Deed bearing doc no. 23463 of 2007 dated 27.12.2007 in favour of Mrs.K.Ankamma and the same are not available in original with my client.

It is further informed that, any person who has found or who finds the above mentioned Original Title Deeds, may return the same by way of registered post to the address given below or inform the undersigned by telephone, any person/(s) having any objections, claims, right, lien, title over the said property may please contact the under signed within **15 days** from the date of publication of this notice with relevant documents in support of their claim.

Sd/- **SRIRAM REGANI, MBA, LLB.**
Advocate
Flat no # 307, MNK'S Vittal's Central Court, New Bhoiguda, Secunderabad, PIN Code # 500003.

PUBLIC NOTICE

General public is hereby informed that my client **Mr. Mohammed Ikramuddin Ahmed S/o. Mohammed Aleemuddin Ahmed**, R/o. 12-2-899, Zeba Bagh, Asifnagar, Hyd., TG. entered into an agreement of sale for purchase of **agricultural land in Survey No's.215/6/2/1 & 215/6/1/2/1, an extent of 0.1350 Ac.Gts & in Survey No's.215/6/1/2/2 & 215/6/2/2, an extent of 0.1350 Ac.Gts, Total an extent of 0.2700 Ac.Gts , Situated at Orella Village, Chevella Mandal, Ranga Reddy District, Telangana**. TD-cum-Pass Book Number: T05040111597, TD-cum-Pass Book Number: T05040111598. from its **Owners 1. Mr. Malgari Venkat Reddy, S/o. M Malla Reddy**, R/o. 4-17-19, Himagiri Nagar Colony, Gandhamguda, R.R.Dist., TS, **(2) Mr. Bobbiligama Nithin Goud, S/o. Bobbiligama Subhash Goud,** R/o. 8-25, Chevella Village, R.R.Dist., TG. **Any person(s) Banks, Financial Institutions, Govt. Dept. having any objection / claim / rights** over property for the said transaction, may approach the undersigned within **(7) Seven days with all relevant documents** from the date of this publication no claim will be entertained thereafter my clients will proceed for Sale Deed Registration.

MOHD RASHEEDUDDIN
Advocate & Associates
Off: 9-4-115/C, Tolichowki, Hyd.,TS
Cell: **8497946786 / 8008000750**

Telangana Today
8-2-603/1/7,8,9,
Road No 10, Banjara Hills,
Hyderabad - 34
Email:
t.todayadvt@gmail.com

PUBLIC & COURT NOTICE & CLASSIFIEDS ADVERTISEMENTS
9848077857
9182777757

KTR punches holes in CM's tall claims

Exposes Revanth with facts on loan waiver, teacher transfers

STATE BUREAU
HYDERABAD

A day after Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy made a few statements regarding the crop loan waiver, teachers' transfers, providing jobs and others, BRS working president KT Rama Rao came down heavily on him, exposing his false claims with facts.

"It's one thing for a politician to stretch the truth, but rarely have I seen someone lie so blatantly and confidently as Mr Revanth Reddy," Rama Rao said. Countering the Chief Minister's claims on teachers' transfers that since 18 years there were none, the BRS working president said in 2018, a major teacher transfer process took place, involving over 50,000 teachers.

On the Regional Ring Road project, the Chief Minister claimed that along with Roads and Buildings Minister Komatireddy Venkat Reddy, he had met Prime Minister Narendra Modi to secure the project. Fact, according to Rama Rao, was that the RRR project was proposed by the BRS government in 2017. By December 2018, the union Transport Ministry had granted provisional approval. In June 2021, the NHAI issued tenders for the northern section of the project. The then Chief Minister K Chandrashekhar Rao further requested that the southern part be included under the Bharatmala Pariyojana scheme, he said.

Regarding the crop loan waiver, the CM had announced that as promised, the waiver of farmer loans up to Rs 2 lakh was completed by August 15. On this, the BRS working president said crop loans of just over one-third of farmers were waived. "While farmers are resorting to suicide due to unfulfilled promises, Mr Revanth claims he's seeing smiles on the faces of farmers," he said, adding that while Rs 49,500 crore was required for full waiver, only Rs 17,933 crore was actually waived in three phases.

On the CM's claims that in just 90 days, 30,000 jobs were provided to the youth, Rama Rao pointed out that these jobs were already notified by the BRS government. Exams and certificate verifications were conducted by KCR's administration, he clarified. "All #Scamgress Government did was issue appointment letters for jobs that had already been filled by the previous BRS government," he added. Apart from the BRS working president, people from different sections also condemned the Chief Minister's statements and exposed his false claims. Listing out the facts and figures about the above claims made by the Chief Minister on X, Nayini Anurag Reddy, an entrepreneur, said there were many more claims by Revanth Reddy that are nowhere near the truth.

"It is surprising to see a CM lying so easily so many times in just one single speech without any discomfort. It is because he probably believes in what Goebbels said: 'If you tell a lie big enough and keep repeating it, people will eventually come to believe it'," he said. @BharathMBNR, another X user, asked the CM to make the claims of filling 65,000 jobs in one year at Ashoknagar.

In Brief

SANGAREDDY

Farmer falls to death in well

A farmer died after slipping into an open agriculture well at Mukthapur village in Nagulgidda mandal on Monday. Abbenda Nagesh (38) was known for his support to environmental activist Paladugu Gnaneshwar, a resident of the village. He would help in carrying out green activities such as planting trees. Nagesh is survived by his wife and daughters. A case was registered.

SIDDIPET

BRSV leaders file plaint

BRSV leaders lodged a complaint against Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy for making objectionable comments against former Minister T Harish Rao at the Rajagopalpet police station in Siddipet on Monday. Led by BRSV leader Gujja Raju and party youth wing president Gundravelli Venu, the youth leaders submitted a petition to the Rajagopalpet SI. Raju said Revanth Reddy used objectionable language against Harish Rao during a meeting at Gandhi Bhavan on Sunday. He demanded that the CM withdraw his comments. BRSV leaders Mittapally Sudhakar and Padige Lingam wer present.

Hails Kaleshwaram, slams Congress for power cuts

HYDERABAD: BRS working president KT Rama Rao hailed the Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Scheme (KLIS) as a pillar of strength for Telangana's farmers, crediting it with solving decades-old irrigation challenges.

He underlined the resilience of the project, which had not only withstood severe floods but also "muddy politics", ensuring relief for farmers across the State.

"Salutations to the Kaleshwaram project for driving away sorrow from farmers' lives," he posted on X, thwarting the allegations of the Congress and the BJP, which dubbed the project as a huge failure involving huge corruption.

In a series of posts, Rama Rao also aimed at the Congress government, accusing it of failing to address pressing issues. He criticised Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy's promise of free electricity, stating that it had instead resulted in farmers being "free from electricity". He pointed out that Mothe mandal in Suryapet was without power for 16 days, affecting farmers' livelihoods. He urged Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka to intervene immediately.

He also condemned the government's neglect of education, noting delays in release of school grants and mid-day meal dues. "The Congress has abandoned our children. Schools are left scrambling for basic necessities."

Why no action on 'RR Tax', BRS asks Modi

HYDERABAD: BRS working president KT Rama Rao on Monday questioned Prime Minister Narendra Modi over the Centre's inaction against the alleged 'RR Tax' in Telangana, despite the Prime Minister's earlier remarks on the issue. He said it was over four months since Modi first spoke about the 'RR Tax' and asked for any specific reason for not initiating any action by the Centre in this regard.

During his election campaign, Modi had alleged that the Congress government in Telangana was collecting 'RR tax' from the people to fund its party high command. He claimed that the R in Telangana was sending the collected amount to the R in Delhi, implying that Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy was sending funds to Congress leader Rahul Gandhi.

Taking to X, Rama Rao pointed out the silence of BJP leaders in Telangana, including union Ministers G Kishan Reddy and Bandi Sanjay, on the alleged corruption by the Congress in the State. "While you say Congress in Telangana has been indulging in massive corruption, why do your colleagues in Cabinet Kishan Reddy and Bandi Sanjay refuse to speak against 'RR Tax' or other corrupt practices of the Congress?" he questioned.

He asked whether the BJP leaders in Telangana did not agree with the PM's accusations or if the remarks were merely an "election jhumla".

BJP to boycott Praja Palana Day celebrations

STATE BUREAU
Hyderabad

The BJP State unit has decided to boycott the Praja Palana Day celebrations, being organised by the State government on September 17, the day the erstwhile Nizam-ruled Hyderabad state was integrated with the Indian union in 1948.

Union Coal Minister and BJP State chief G Kishan Reddy wrote to Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy stating that his party could not be part of an "insincere ritual that blatantly attempts to erase the truth from the people". To describe the liberation of Hyderabad as just another transition of power from a monarchy to a democracy not only subverts the heroic struggle but also propagates further the politics of appeasement, he said.

"The State government's intent seems to be to deflect the people's attention from the core aspects of the struggle, which is evident in the very name given to the day," he alleged.

The Centre has invited the Chief Minister to the 'Hyderabad Liberation Day' celebrations at Parade Ground, however, he has expressed his inability to attend the programme.

KCR to expose Cong inefficiencies

STATE BUREAU
Hyderabad

BRS president K Chandrashekhar Rao's plan to hold a high-level meeting with senior leaders is being seen as critical to reinvigorating the party cadre and stalling potential defections, which have increased with the Congress assuming power.

BRS insiders reveal that Chandrashekhar Rao plans to expose the inefficiencies of the Congress, especially on issues related to irrigation and electricity, which have significantly impacted Telangana's agrarian community. The focus will be on incomplete promises, such as the loan waiver, crop compensation and the non-implementation of Rythu Bharosa farm investment support — leading to rising farmer suicides across the State.

He is also said to be considering a State-wide tour to pressure the government and connect with the grassroots, possibly through bus tours or large-scale gatherings. The party aims at launching a sustained campaign that highlights Congress' governance failures while showcasing BRS' past achievements. The ongoing row over Hyderabad's brand image, especially due to the extra-judicial demolitions carried out by HYDRAA targeting the poor, also will be discussed.

Chandrashekhar Rao's re-emergence also signals a tactical shift within the BRS, with an eye on reclaiming political ground in the State. The BRS leadership sees an opportunity to capitalise on the Congress government's apparent disorganisation. Chandrashekhar Rao is expected to direct party ranks to launch a comprehensive State-wide campaign, exposing the government's shortcomings. He is likely to call for protests, roadshows and other grassroots-level activities to connect with farmers and showcase the failures of Congress.

The proposed State-wide tour will see him engage directly with the people to discuss irrigation, electricity problems and unfulfilled promises such as Rythu Bharosa. The BRS also aims at highlighting its initiatives and how the Congress government failed to sustain those efforts.

Kaushik accuses CM of plotting to kill him

BRS MLA Padi Kaushik Reddy addressing a press conference at Telangana Bhavan on Monday.

STATE BUREAU
Hyderabad

BRS MLA Padi Kaushik Reddy charged Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy of conspiring to kill him, stating that the recent murder attempt on him was instigated by the latter. He demanded that the police register a case against the Chief Minister, who must clarify on the provocative remarks made by him publicly in this regard.

"It is shameful for a Chief Minister to claim that his party members attacked an opposition MLA. Revanth Reddy will be responsible if anything happens to me," he said at a press conference at Telangana Bhavan here on Monday. He said the Chief Minister ensured that Serlingampally MLA Arekapudi Gandhi and his supporters were escorted with police protection to his residence recently to carry out the attack on him.

The BRS MLA said had received death threats over phone and that he had already informed the Additional Director General of Intelligence in this regard. He urged Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka and other Congress leaders to respond to the Chief Minister's statements and use of abusive language.

Kaushik Reddy also criticised the lack of response from the Cyberabad Police Commissioner regarding the attack on him and questioned why no action was taken against the local ACP and the Circle Inspector concerned. He sought to know why Revanth Reddy developed a grudge against him, despite him helping the latter become the Telangana Pradesh Congress Committee president in the past.

He said the Chief Minister had previously deceived him, forcing him to quit the Congress. "I will continue to fight under former Chief Minister K Chandrashekhar Rao's leadership until Revanth Reddy is removed from office," he said.

MLAs KP Vivekananda Goud and Dr Kalvakuntla Sanjay also voiced their disapproval of the deteriorating law and order under the Congress government. They said BRS leaders would soon meet the DGP, Home Secretary and Governor, seeking their intervention on the issue. If there was no favourable response, the BRS would consider taking up the issue with the President as well, they said.

GRAND FAREWELL

Artistes perform during the Ganesh immersion procession in Siddipet on Monday.

BRS leaders protest in Siddipet

STATE BUREAU
Siddipet

BRS leaders and workers staged a protest at the Martyrs Memorial at Rangadhampally junction in Siddipet protesting the unveiling of the statue of former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi at the Secretariat on Monday.

They said Rajiv Gandhi did nothing for the cause of Telangana, but the Congress government had gone ahead with the installation of the statue despite strong opposition from all quarters.

Wearing black badges, the BRS leaders raised slogans of Rajiv Gandhi Vaddu-Telangana Thalli Muddu (No to Rajiv Gandhi-Yes to Telangana Thalli).

Installation of statue insult to Telangana's identity and self-respect, says Vemula

STATE BUREAU
Hyderabad

Former Minister and senior BRS leader Vemula Prashanth Reddy termed the installation of former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's statue in front of the Dr BR Ambedkar Telangana State Secretariat as an insult to Telangana's self-respect and identity.

He said Rajiv Gandhi had no connection with the formation of Telangana and his statue has been installed at a location earmarked for the statue of Telangana Thalli.

On KCR's grand plans

Speaking to mediapersons at Telangana Bhavan here on Monday, Prashanth Reddy said former Chief Minister K Chandrashekhar Rao envisioned the creation of a tourist spot dedicated to Telangana Thalli, with a grand statue symbolising the spirit and struggle of the people who fought for statehood. The surrounding area was planned for developing landmark constructions to remember those associated with the Telangana statehood movement, with the 125-ft statue of Dr BR Ambedkar, the Amara Jyothi Martyrs' Memorial and also the Telangana Thalli statue. "But Chief Minister Revanth Reddy prioritised pleasing his Delhi bosses over the sentiments of the people of Telangana," he said.

He argued that the move was also a diversion tactic by the Congress to distract people from its unfulfilled promises. But the people will soon reject this government, he added.

He urged the Telangana intellectuals to make the Congress leadership reconsider its decision. He reiterated that once the BRS returns to power, steps will be taken to restore the honour of Telangana Thalli and correct the insult to the State's history.

'Rajiv Gandhi promoted tech in India'

STATE BUREAU
Hyderabad

Revanth says late Prime Minister had taken over the reins of the country when it was in deep crisis. It was he who introduced a technological revolution in India

Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy said it was former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi who had introduced computers in the country and promoted the use of technology in different sectors.

Speaking after unveiling a statue of the former Prime Minister in front of the Secretariat, he said there was nothing wrong in installing the late Rajiv Gandhi's statue amidst former Prime Ministers Indira Gandhi and PV Narasimha Rao statues. The Chief Minister further said that the Gandhi family had not taken any positions after the demise of Rajiv Gandhi and had set an example for sacrifices.

"Won't speak politics"

Though he said in the beginning that the unveiling of the statue was not a venue to speak politics, Revanth Reddy still challenged the BRS citing its protests against the statue.

"Let the BRS declare the date for relocating the statue. They will be taught a fitting lesson," he said.

Stating that he wanted to bring out a few things since some political forces were protesting against the statue, he reeled out the history of the sacrifices by Jawaharlal Nehru and the Gandhi family.

Indira Gandhi did not take any post while Nehru was the PM of the country, he said while responding to statements on family politics, and also said Rajiv Gandhi had taken the reins of the country when the nation was in deep crisis. It was Rajiv Gandhi who introduced a technological revolution in the country, he said.

In Brief

BHOPAL

3 wagons of train derail

Three wagons of a Bengaluru-bound goods train derailed between Misrod and Mandideep stations near Bhopal on Monday, affecting traffic on one line. Efforts are underway to restore the route after the incident occurred at 12:45 pm. "Three wagons of the goods train carrying automobiles to Bengaluru from Delhi derailed in the afternoon. Senior officials are working on a war footing to restore the affected track and rail traffic," the Railway official said.

LATEHAR

3 naxalites arrested

Three Naxalites were arrested in Jharkhand's Latehar district, police said. All three were associated with the proscribed People's Liberation Front of India (PLFI). They were identified as PLFI's 'sub-zonal commander' Ramvijay Singh and members Rupesh Ram and Dharmendra Lohra. DSP Ashutosh Kumar Satyam said acting on a tip-off that some PLFI members were heading to Herhanj on a motorcycle to collect a levy, a raid was conducted and the arrests were made on Sunday.

MANGALURU

Communal tension

Tension prevailed in the communally-sensitive Dakshina Kannada in Karnataka on Monday after stones were pelted on a place of worship, while two groups exchanged provocative statements elsewhere on the eve of Eid-e-Milad, police said. Window panes of place of worship were shattered in the stone-pelting incident at Katipalla in Mangaluru taluk on Sunday night following which six persons were arrested. PTI

Will bury terrorism in J&K, says Shah

Reiterates Art 370 is history; will never be part of Constitution

PTI
GULABGARH

Asserting that BJP-led central government will bury terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir so deep that it can never rise again, union Home Minister Amit Shah on Monday reiterated that Article 370 is now history and will never be a part of India's Constitution again.

Addressing an election rally here in Padder-Nagseni Assembly segment of Kishtwar district, Shah said the National Conference-Congress alliance will not be able to form the J-K government. "Today, I promise to the people of Jammu and Kashmir, including this region which has a history of sacrifices following the eruption of terrorism in 1990, that we will bury terrorism to such a deep level that it will never surface again," the Home Minister said.

He added that attempts are being made to revive and strengthen terrorism like the 1990s. The Home Minister paid tributes to all those who have been killed in terror-related incidents, and specially referred to the deaths of BJP leaders Anil Parihar, Ajit Parihar and RSS leader Chanderkant Sharma. "National Conference and Congress have made promises like releasing terrorists from jails after the formation of their government. In front of Maa (Machial Mata's) shrine, I am saying to you that this is Modi's government and no one has the courage to spread terrorism on the soil of India," he said.

Shah said the BJP government has strengthened the village defence guards and Special Police Officers who are being provided modern weapons, replacing the old .303 rifles with self-loading rifles. This was the Home Minister's second visit to the Jammu region within a fortnight.

Union Home Minister Amit Shah during a public meeting ahead of J&K Assembly elections, in Kishtwar on Monday. — Photo: PTI

Rashid dancing to someone else's tunes: Omar Abdullah

SRINAGAR: National Conference (NC) leader Omar Abdullah on Monday said the strings of alliance between Lok Sabha member Sheikh Abdul Rashid's Awami Ittehad Party (AIP) and Jamaat-e-Islami were being remotely pulled to take on his party. "Their strings are connected somewhere else, they get their orders from them and they dance to their tunes," Abdullah said.

The former Chief Minister was reacting to the AIP entering an alliance with former members of banned Jamaat-e-Islami who are contesting the polls as independent candidates. "They have been fielded to take on the National Conference. We have no issues, we will fight them," he added. PTI

'Fight between Congress-NC alliance, BJP'

KISHTWAR: Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Monday said there is a clear fight between the Congress-National Conference (NC) alliance and the BJP — one wanting to bring back Article 370, and the other committed to stopping it. He said voting in favour of BJP candidate Shugan Parihar is not only for development and progress but also to pay tribute to martyrs, including her father.

"This election in Jammu and Kashmir is clearly between two forces. On one side are the NC and the Congress, and on the other side is the BJP. It is a contest between the BJP and the Gandhi-Abdullah families. Both have clear agendas," Shah told a public rally here. He said the BJP follows the ideology of Prem Nath Dogra - "One Constitution, one flag, and one Prime Minister," affirming that Jammu and Kashmir is an inseparable part of India, and "no one can reverse that". Shah said NC and Congress have said they will restore Art 370 if their government comes to power. "The reservations now available to hill people and Gujjars will be taken away under Article 370," he said. PTI

Kejriwal meets AAP leaders to select next CM

Seeks one on one feedback on eligible candidate from party's Political Affairs Committee

NEW DELHI

AAP convener Arvind Kejriwal on Monday held "one on one" meeting with party leaders during the Political Affairs Committee (PAC) over the name of a new Delhi Chief Minister.

Aam Aadmi Party leader Saurabh Bharadwaj said the PAC meeting was held at Kejriwal's official residence here. "During the meeting, Kejriwal sought one on one feedback from each leader on his replacement. Tomorrow, the legislative party meeting is there and this discussion will go into the second round," Bharadwaj said after the meeting.

Kejriwal, who on Sunday announced his decision to step down from the post of Delhi Chief Minister, took individual feedbacks by holding one to one meeting with the PAC members and Ministers of Delhi government during the meeting, Bharadwaj said. The MLAs of AAP will meet at Kejriwal's residence at 11.30 am on Tuesday to discuss the name of a consensus candidate to succeed him as the Delhi Chief Minister. The AAP supremo had said he would become Chief Minister and Manish Sisodia his deputy "only when people say we are honest". PTI

Kejriwal's decision to resign driven by compulsion: BJP

NEW DELHI: The BJP's Delhi president Virender Sachdeva on Monday said AAP supremo Arvind Kejriwal's decision to resign as Chief Minister was borne out of "compulsion" and not driven by "principle". Sachdeva also alleged that none of the Delhi government departments was free of corruption under Kejriwal's rule.

Firing a salvo at Delhi Chief Minister, Sachdeva said, "The decision to resign was a compulsion for Kejriwal, not driven by principle. The Supreme Court has clearly pointed out that he cannot go to his office, cannot sign any file, then what choice did Kejriwal have?" Sachdeva asked. Kejriwal has tried to pass off this compulsion as dignity and the people of Delhi understand it, he claimed.

Sachdeva also alleged there was no department where there was no corruption during past 10 years. PTI

Man held for pressuring wife to convert to Islam

BARABANKI

A 35-year-old man, accused of marrying a woman by pretending to be Hindu and later pressuring her to convert to Islam, has been arrested by the police here, officials said. The police action has come on instructions of Chief Judicial Magistrate Sudha Singh's court, which ordered that an FIR be lodged in the case following a complaint by a 32-year-old woman, they said.

Mohammad Azam Zaidi, a property dealer and contractor, was arrested on Sunday, and subsequently presented in court, which has sent him to jail, a senior official said. The woman alleged that Zaidi, who pretended to be named Aman, trapped her into marriage in 2016. After discovering her husband's true identity, she faced threats and sexual assault, the official added. PTI

Andhra's gram sabha initiative draws praise

STATE BUREAU
Hyderabad

Govt set record by conducting gram sabhas in 13,326 village panchayats across in a day, says Pawan Kalyan

The gram sabha initiative of Andhra Pradesh has garnered global recognition. The Panchayat Raj and Rural Development Department headed by AP Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan, stated that it set a world record within 100 days of coming to power by conducting gram sabhas in 13,326 village panchayats across the State in a single day.

According to a statement from the Jana Sena Party, the World Records union recognised the gram sabhas conducted by AP on August 23. It awarded an official certificate and medal for the achievement. The award was presented by Christopher Taylor Craft, Official Records Manager of the World Records Union, at an event in Hyderabad on Monday, it said.

Pawan Kalyan said it was a great honour that the World Records union representative acknowledged this large-scale participation of people in governance as the most significant village governance initiative ever conducted in a single day.

'Simultaneous polls not pragmatic'

NEW DELHI

The Congress said the idea of 'one nation, one election' was not pragmatic and wondered how long the government would survive by "releasing hot air balloons" to test the waters. The party's assertion came after reports said the NDA would implement 'one nation, one election' during its current tenure.

The Congress asserted that there was no draft proposal of 'one nation, one election' and the government had made no attempt to speak to it. The NDA will implement it within its current tenure, sources said, exuding confidence that the reform measure would receive support across party lines. PTI

Gentle Gaint

A priest rides an elephant to immerse an idol of Lord Ganesha at Elephant Village, in Jaipur, on Monday. — Photo: PTI

RG Kar case: Protesting doctors meet Mamata for talks

KOLKATA

The meeting between the West Bengal government and the agitating junior doctors got over after nearly two hours, after which both sides were in the process of finalizing the minutes of the meeting, sources said on Monday night.

The delegation of doctors, which arrived at Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee's Kalighat residence for the crucial talks at 6.20 pm, are still inside and are working on the minutes of the meeting till the last reports came in. After four unsuccessful bids to initiate a dialogue to resolve the more than a month-long deadlock, a delegation of 35 agitating junior doctors came for the meeting this evening.

The meeting, which was originally scheduled at 5 pm, began around 6:50 pm and ended at around 9 pm. The first round of talks between the West Bengal government and the agitating junior doctors began at Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee's residence in Kalighat on Monday evening to address the RG Kar impasse. After four unsuccessful bids to initiate a dialogue to resolve the deadlock, a delegation of agitating junior doctors arrived at Banerjee's residence for the talks. The previous attempts to resolve the issue got stuck due to the State government's rejection of the doctors' demand for live-streaming and video recording of the meeting. PTI

People raise slogans near Chief Minister Mamata Banerjees house in Kolkata on Monday. — Photo: PTI

SC to hear plea today

NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court is likely to hear on Tuesday a case it has initiated on its own following the rape and murder of a resident doctor at RG Kar Medical College and Hospital in Kolkata amid the ongoing protests by doctors in West Bengal. The hearing assumes significance as resident doctors continue their strike despite the apex court's directive to them to resume work by 5 pm on September 10 to avoid punitive action by the government which had claimed that their absence from work had led to the death of 23 patients till September 9, the day the case was last heard. As per the apex court web site, the suo-motu case is listed as the first item on Tuesday before a bench comprising Chief Justice DY Chandrachud and Justices JB Pardiwala and Manoj Misra. PTI

Doctors allege tampering of evidence

NEW DELHI: Senior doctors of RG Kar Medical College alleged tampering of evidence in the Kolkata doctor rape and murder case. They reiterated their demand for a live streaming of the meeting between them and West Bengal govt.

"We condemn all such heinous crimes. This crime is a fallout of the nexus between West Bengal government and health department officials," said one of the doctors. The doctors alleged there was "tampering of evidence".

In a statement, they have demanded they want concerned authorities, CBI and Supreme Court to expedite the investigation process and punish the culprits without any delay. PTI

Minister labels agitation as 'drama'

KOLKATA: Senior West Bengal Minister Siddiqullah Chowdhury on Monday criticised the ongoing 'cease work' by junior doctors, labeling it as "drama" and a "politicised event" intended to malign the TMC government in the State. Meanwhile, the agitating doctors continued their sit-in outside Swasthya Bhawan, the headquarters of the health department, for the eighth day and their 'cease work' for the 36th day demanding justice for the medic who was raped-murdered at the RG Kar hospital.

The doctors have vowed to persist with their protest until their demands— removal of Kolkata Police Commissioner and State health officials—are met. PTI

Shed patriarchal social attitude: CJI

NEW DELHI

There is no dearth of legal provisions to protect the interest of women in private and public spaces but law alone cannot make a just system, Chief Justice of India D Y Chandrachud said on Monday, stressing that society also has to shed its "patriarchal social attitude".

Speaking at She Shakti event, CJI Chandrachud said, "We must foster institutional and individual ability to look beyond the male default". "There is no dearth of substantive and procedural legal provisions targeted towards protecting the interests of women in private and public situations. But good laws including the stringent laws alone do not make for a just society. Above all we need to change our mindsets. The mindsets must move from making concessions for women to recognising their entitlement to lead lives based on freedom and equality. We must zealously guard against apparently protective laws infringing women's liberties and choices," the CJI said.

"Talking about women's rights is not a women's thing. Some of the great life lessons I have learnt from my female colleagues." "I believe equal participation of women is important for a better society. Before we adopted the Constitution of India, the Indian Women's Charter of Life was drafted by Hansa Mehta, who was feminist," he added.

The CJI said issues of safety, equality of opportunity, dignity and empowerment are not subsets that ought to be discussed in silos. "Every one of us in the country has to be a part of this conversation. Equal participation of women in governance, policy and leadership roles is positively linked to better development outcomes. When we either create or fail to address barriers in the path of women, we are jeopardizing our quest for a better society. Indifference is no longer an option," he said. PTI

Will never surrender: Trump

Thanks US Secret Service, law enforcement for 'outstanding' job after yet another assassination bid

PTI
WASHINGTON

Hours after another failed attempt on his life, former US President Donald Trump on Monday said he will never surrender and never stop fighting for Americans.

The Republican presidential candidate also thanked the US Secret Service and other law enforcement officials for their "outstanding" job after what the FBI said was an apparent assassination attempt while playing golf on one of his golf courses in Florida's West Palm Beach.

The former President remained unharmed in the latest assassination bid about two months after another attempt on his life at a Pennsylvania rally. "I am Donald J Trump. FEAR NOT! I am safe and well, and no one was hurt. Thank God!," the Republican presidential candidate said on his campaign website.

"There are people in this world who will do whatever it takes to stop us. I will not stop fighting for you. I will Never Surrender! I will always love you for supporting me. Through our UNITY we will Make America Great Again! I will Never Surrender!" Trump said. "THE JOB DONE WAS ABSOLUTELY OUTSTANDING," the former President said in a post on Truth Social.

"I would like to thank everyone for your concern and well wishes — It was certainly an interesting day! Most importantly, I want to thank the US Secret Service, Sheriff Ric Bradshaw and his Office of brave and dedicated patriots, and, all of the law enforcement, for the incredible job done today at Trump International in keeping me, as the 45th President of the United States, and the Republican nominee in the upcoming presidential election, SAFE," Trump said.

Local authorities said the US Secret Service agents protecting Trump fired at a man pointing an AK-style rifle with a scope while the former President was golfing with donor Steve Witkoff when shots were fired, CNN quoted a source familiar with the development as saying. President Joe Biden and vice-president Kamala Harris were briefed and updated on the investigation. Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese expressed "concern" and said it is "a good thing" Trump is safe.

"Everyone wants the democratic process to be peaceful and to be orderly," he said.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy in a post on X said he is glad to hear Trump is "safe and unharmed". "This is our principle: the rule of law is paramount and political violence has no place anywhere in the world," Zelenskyy said.

Hungary's Prime Minister Viktor Orban, a longtime Trump supporter, said on X: "It is clear that [former] President Trump's life is in danger, until his victory." Sunday's incident was the latest jarring moment in the former President's life following the July 13 failed assassination attempt on Trump during a rally in Butler, Pennsylvania, when a bullet grazed his ear.

Law enforcement personnel investigate the area around Golf Club in West Palm Beach, Florida, on Monday. — Photo: AFP

> **As I have said many times, there is no place for political violence or for any violence ever in our country, and I have directed my team to continue to ensure that Secret Service has every resource, capability and protective measure necessary to ensure the former President's continued safety**
>
> — **JOE BIDEN,** US President

> **I have been briefed on reports of gunshots fired near former President Trump and his property in Florida, and I am glad he is safe. Violence has no place in America**
>
> — **KAMALA HARRIS,** US Vice-President

Why no one trying to assassinate Biden or Kamala, questions Musk

WASHINGTON: Reacting to the incident of an alleged assassination attempt on former US President Donald Trump, Tech billionaire Elon Musk made a controversial statement saying why "no assassination attempts were being made on US President Joe Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris". Responding to a question from an X user, "Why they want to kill Donald Trump?", the Tesla CEO wrote: "And no one is even trying to assassinate Biden/Kamala." The Tesla and SpaceX chief is a Trump supporter and has often been writing posts in his favour. IANS

Suspect camped outside for 12 hours

Ryan Wesley Routh

WEST PALM BEACH: Ryan Wesley Routh (58), suspected in an apparent assassination attempt targeting former President Donald Trump camped outside a golf course with food and a rifle for nearly 12 hours before a Secret Service agent confronted him and opened fire, according to court documents filed Monday.

He faces charges of possessing a firearm despite a prior felony conviction and possessing a firearm with an obliterated serial number. Additional and more serious charges are possible as the investigation continues and Justice Department prosecutors seek an indictment from a grand jury. Routh appeared briefly in federal court in West Palm Beach, where he answered perfunctory questions about his work status and income. Shackled and wearing a blue jumpsuit, he smiled as he spoke with a public defender and reviewed documents. The lawyer declined to comment after the hearing ended. Routh was arrested Sunday afternoon after authorities spotted a firearm poking out of shrubbery on the West Palm Beach golf course where Trump was playing. Prosecutors asked that he remain locked up as a flight risk. A federal magistrate set additional hearings for later this month.

An FBI affidavit accompanying a criminal complaint shows how law enforcement officials, during their investigation, used his cellphone information to place him at the golf course from 1:59 am Sunday until about 1:31 pm. A digital camera, a loaded rifle with scope, and a plastic bag containing food were recovered from the area where Routh had positioned himself, according to the affidavit.

The authorities did not immediately reveal any new details about Routh or allege a particular motive. But he left an online footprint that reveals shifting political views and intense outrage about world events. "You are free to assassinate Trump," Routh wrote of Iran in an apparently self-published 2023 book titled "Ukraine's Unwinnable War," which described the former President as a "fool" and "buffoon" for both the January 6, 2021, Capitol riots and the "tremendous blunder" of leaving the Iran nuclear deal. He also tried to recruit fighters for Ukraine to defend itself against Russia, and he had a website seeking to raise money and recruit volunteers to fight for Kyiv.

Speaking in a soft voice in court, he said that he was working and making around $ 3,000 a month, but has zero savings. Routh said he had no real estate or assets, aside from two trucks worth about $ 1,000, both located in Hawaii. He also said that he has a 25-year-old son, whom he sometimes supports. AP

In Brief

LONDON

Border Force Commander

The UK appointed a new Border Force Commander with "unique expertise" to tackle the growing problem of illegal migrants crossing over to England in unsafe boats across the English Channel and smashing the smuggling gangs facilitating dangerous crossings. Prime Minister Keir Starmer announced Martin Hewitt as new border chief before talks with Italian counterpart Giorgia Meloni.

BEIJING

Typhoon hits China

Bebinca, the strongest typhoon to have hit China's Shanghai city in 75 years packing a maximum wind speed of 42 meters, made landfall on Monday bringing the megacity of 25 million to a grinding halt. The typhoon churned ashore at the Lingang area of Shanghai's Pudong District. The city has already mobilised thousands of relief and rescue workers to attend to emergencies. PTI

DETROIT

Two dead in US shooting

A second person has died from a shooting at a popular tailgating site after a Detroit Lions game. A fight broke out around 4:30 pm on Sunday at Eastern Market, an open-air gathering spot, police Chief James White said. Tampa Bay had just defeated the Lions nearby at Ford Field, 20-16. The fight escalated when one person pulled out a gun and fired at least two rounds. AP

PRAGUE

Europe floods: 5 dead

Flooding in Central Europe killed five more people in Poland and one in Czech Republic. Number of flood victims in Poland rose from one to five after the body of a surgeon returning from hospital duty was found in the town of Nysa. Earlier, the bodies of two women and two men were found separately in the towns of Bielsko-Biala and Ladek-Zdrój and in two villages. AP

20 killed as two tribes clash in PNG

SYDNEY

At least 20 people have been killed in heavy fighting that has erupted between two tribes near a gold mine in Papua New Guinea, while women, girls, the elderly, and young boys rushed to escape the area, reports said on Monday.

The fight in the Porgera Valley in Enga province, home to one of the country's largest gold deposits, started last week when two factions of illegal miners fought among themselves and one faction killed two men from the other faction.

About 20 people have been killed, including two local mine workers, and the number increased steadily each day. Porgera has seen a mass exodus of more than 5,000 people.

Police Commissioner David Manning has declared emergency orders to safeguard infrastructure and residents in Porgera due to "escalating law and order issues."

Police would be increasing the legitimate use of force to remove combatants in order to protect critical infrastructure including the Porgera Mine. "Security personnel will use legitimate lethal force where appropriate to protect the innocent, meaning that any person carrying an offensive weapon in public will be considered a threat and dealt with accordingly, with force," Manning said.

"This situation is caused by illegal miners and settlers who are using violence to terrorise the traditional landowners." "We have 122 security personnel on the ground, including mobile squad, dog squads and Sector Response Unit as well as personnel from Defense Force," he said. IANS

RSF attack in Sudan leaves 40 dead

KHARTOUM

At least 40 civilians were killed in an attack by the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces (RSF) on a village in central Sudan. "An RSF attack on Gouz Al-Naqa village of Abu Gouta area in Gezira State killed at least 40 civilians," Abu Gouta Resistance Committee, a non-governmental group, said in a statement.

Several corpses remained exposed in the village, as the RSF is preventing displaced villagers from returning to bury the dead. The committee called on civil society organisations to put pressure on the RSF to allow residents to enter the village and bury the deceased.

RSF has not made any comment about the attack. RSF took control of Gezira State in 2023 after Sudanese Armed Forces withdrew from Wad Madani. IANS

THE 'MOST PHOTOGENIC'

Cambodia's Angkor Wat has been named as the most photogenic UNESCO World Heritage site in Asia. The 401-square-kilometre park is home to 91 ancient templesOtherworld heritage sites on the list included Taj Mahal, Great Wall, Bagan, Borobudur, Halong Bay, Kyoto's Historical Monuments of Japan, Petra, the Rice Terraces of the Philippines Cordilleras, and Hampi. — File Photo

16 Palestinians killed in Israeli airstrikes

JERUSALEM

Palestinian officials say Israeli airstrikes have killed 16 people in the Gaza Strip, including five women and four children. A strike early on Monday flattened a home in the built-up Nuseirat refugee camp in central Gaza, killing at least 10 people, including four women and two children.

The Awda Hospital, which received the bodies, confirmed the toll and said another 13 people were wounded. Hospital records show that the dead included a mother, her child and her five siblings.

Another strike on a home in Gaza killed six people, including a woman and two children, according to the Civil Defence, first responders who operate under the Hamas-run government.

The Gaza Health Ministry says over 41,000 Palestinians have been killed since Hamas' October 7 attack triggered the war. Israel says it only targets militants and accuses Hamas and other armed groups of endangering civilians. AP

Palestinians check the rubble of a house following Israeli bombardment in Nuseirat, on Monday. — Photo: AFP

Houthis down US MQ-9 Reaper drone

DUBAI: Yemen's Houthi rebels claimed Monday that they shot down another American-made MQ-9 Reaper drone, with video circulating online showing what appeared to be a surface-to-air missile strike and flaming wreckage strewn across the ground. The US military did not respond on the Houthis' claimed downing of drone over Dhamar province. The Houthis have exaggerated claims in the past in their ongoing campaign targeting shipping in the Red Sea over Israel-Hamas war. AP

Taliban stops polio vaccination drive in Afghanistan, says UN

DUBA

The Taliban have suspended polio vaccination campaigns in Afghanistan, the UN said. It's a devastating setback for polio eradication, since the virus is one of the world's most infectious and any unvaccinated groups of children where the virus is spreading could undo years of progress.

Afghanistan is one of two countries in which the spread of the potentially fatal, paralysing disease has never been stopped. The other is Pakistan. It's likely that the Taliban's decision will have major repercussions for other countries in the region and beyond.

News of the suspension was relayed to UN agencies right before the September immunisation campaign was due to start. No reason was given for the suspension, and no one from the Taliban-controlled government was immediately available for comment.

A top official from the World Health Organisation (WHO) said that it was aware of discussions to move away from house-to-house vaccinations and instead have immunisations in places like mosques. The WHO has confirmed 18 polio cases in Afghanistan this year, all but two in the south of the country. That's up from six cases in 2023.

"The Global Polio Eradication Initiative is aware of the recent policy discussions on shifting from house-to-house polio vaccination campaigns to site-to-site vaccination in parts of Afghanistan," said Dr. Hamid Jafari from the WHO. "Partners are in the process of discussing and understanding the scope and impact of any change in current policy."

Polio campaigns in neighbouring Pakistan are regularly marred by violence. Militants target vaccination teams and police assigned to protect them, falsely claiming that the campaigns are a Western conspiracy to sterilise children. AP

TOUGH PLAYERS IN ACTION

Denver Broncos' Jaleel McLaughlin carries the ball against Pittsburgh Steelers' Patrick Queen (middle) in Denver, Colorado. — Photo: AFP

India cruise to ACT final

Skipper Harmanpreet nets twice in team's 4-1 victory over Korea in semifinal

PTI
HULUNBUIR

Skipper Harmanpreet Singh's sublime form resulted in twin strikes as defending champions India entered the final of the Asian Champions Trophy with a clinical 4-1 win against South Korea in the semi-final here on Monday.

India scored through Uttam Singh (13th minute), skipper Harmanpreet Singh (19th, 45th) and Jarmanpreet Singh (32nd), while Korea's lone goal came from through Yang Jihun (33rd)'s penalty corner conversion.

India will take on hosts China in Tuesday's final. Earlier in the day, China defeated Pakistan 2-0 via shoot-out in the first semifinal after the two teams finished 1-1 at the end of regulation 60 minutes. In the previous league stage encounter between the two finalists, India prevailed 3-0. Pakistan and Korea will face off in the third-place classification match.

Meanwhile, in the fifth-sixth place classification match, Japan beat Malaysia 4-2 in shoot-out following a 4-4 stalemate in normal time. In the second semifinal, as expected, the Indians started on the offensive and tested the Korean defence with persistent attacks from the word go.

The Koreans, on the other hand, were content to sit back and defend and rely on sporadic counterattacks.

Players of India and Korea in action during their semifinal tie.

Abhishek came tantalisingly close to handing India the lead in the fourth minute but his reverse hit was brilliantly saved by Korean goalkeeper Kim Jaehan.

The Indians made promising build-ups and penetrated the Korean circle on consistent basis in the first quarter. India's attacking intent finally paid off in the 13th minute when Uttam positioned himself at the right place at the right time to tap in Araijeet Singh Hundal's supply from the right. A minute from the first break, Korea secured back-to-back penalty corners but failed to utilise the chances.

Four minutes into the second quarter, India secured their first penalty corner and Harmanpreet scored his sixth goal of the tournament to hand his side a 2-0 lead.

At the stroke of half-time, custodian Suraj Karkera came out of his line to save an effort from the opposition player. India continued in the same vein after the change of ends and extended their lead two minutes into the third quarter.

A brilliant scoop from Sumit from the right finds Jarmanpreet just outside the circle on the left flank and the latter neatly collected the ball and took a step or two to get inside the circle and slap the ball into the Korean goal to extend India's lead. But Korea pulled one back a minute later from a penalty corner through the tournament's top-scorer Yang Jihun. The goal hardly bothered the Indians as they continued their attacking game and dominated the share of exchanges.

Australia name squad for ODIs against England

NEW DELHI

Cooper Connolly has been added to Australia's ODI squad for the upcoming series against England, while pacer Mahli Beardman, who was a member of the U19 World Cup-winning team, has been called up to the squad as a stand-by player.

Beardman, who is mentored by Dennis Lillee, is yet to make his first-class debut and could earn a senior international debut for Australia during its series against England starting on September 19 at Trent Bridge. He was named player of the match in the U19 World Cup final after taking 3-15 from seven overs against India in Benoni, as Beardman finished with ten scalps. Connolly, has now been asked to stay for the ODIs, and so has left-arm pacer Ben Dwarshuis.

Australia have lost pacers Xavier Bartlett, Nathan Ellis, Riley Meredith and Spencer Johnson to injury, while Josh Hazlewood sat out due to a calf strain. Left-arm fast-bowling spearhead Mitchell Starc is available for ODIs against England, while Pat Cummins was not selected so he works on his strength and conditioning ahead of an important home summer. Australia's fast-bowling stocks for the ODIs against England include Dwarshuis, Starc, Hazlewood and Sean Abbott, with allrounders Cameron Green, Aaron Hardie and captain Mitchell Marsh ready to chip in with the ball at any point in the match.

"There will be opportunities for guys throughout the series, no doubt. Five games in 11 days, we'll have to juggle a bit, but guys will get opportunities and a lot like the T20 series, we're really excited by that," Marsh said.

SQUAD: Mitch Marsh (C), Sean Abbott, Alex Carey, Cooper Connolly, Ben Dwarshuis, Jake Fraser-McGurk, Cameron Green, Aaron Hardie, Josh Hazlewood, Travis Head, Josh Inglis, Marnus Labuschagne, Glenn Maxwell, Matthew Short, Steve Smith, Mitchell Starc, Adam Zampa, Mahli Beardman (reserve player). IANS

Aston Villa legend Shaw passes away

BIRMINGHAM

Aston Villa legend Gary Shaw passed away aged 63 on Monday after being taken ill and in a serious condition in hospital.

"Aston Villa Football Club is deeply shocked and profoundly saddened to learn that Gary Shaw, one of our European Cup-winning heroes, has passed away. Gary was one of our own, a talented striker who delighted supporters with his goalscoring exploits which helped fire Villa to success in the 1980s," read the statement posted by Villa. Shaw excelled during the title-winning campaign of 1980-81 and the European Cup trail the following season. IANS

Sri Lanka recalls Oshada for NZ Tests

COLOMBO

Oshada Fernando makes a comeback after a one-year gap as Sri Lanka announced squad for the upcoming home two-match Test series against New Zealand. The series will be part of the World Test Championship, slated to be played at Galle International Stadium from September 18.

Fernando's last Test was against New Zealand in March 2023. He found his place back in the red-ball team after scoring 122 and 80 for Sri Lanka A against South Africa A earlier this month. The 33-year-old replaced Nishan Madushka, who was part of the side that toured England for a three-match Test series. Sri Lanka won the final match of the series by eight wickets at The Oval to avoid a clean sweep in the tour.

Kasun Rajitha and Nisala Tharaka are the other two players to miss out on the squad, with Sri Lanka retaining most of the members that faced England.

SQUAD: Dhananjaya De Silva (C), Dimuth Karunaratne, Pathum Nissanka, Kusal Mendis, Angelo Mathews, Dinesh Chandimal, Kamindu Mendis, Sadeera Samarawickrama, Oshada Fernando, Asitha Fernando, Vishwa Fernando, Lahiru Kumara, Prabath Jayasuriya, Ramesh Mendis, Jeffrey Vandersay, Milan Rathnayake. IANS

Indian team has extensive training session

CHENNAI

Rohit Sharma and Co had another extensive training session in the build-up to the first Test against Bangladesh with all 16 squad members turning for practice at the Chepauk here on Monday.

After a day off, the India squad members took part in their third training session since their arrival here last week. The first Test begins on Thursday. As is often the case, Virat Kohli was among the first set of batters to hit the nets. In the adjacent net was southpaw Yashasvi Jaiswal as both he and Kohli faced Jasprit Bumrah and home hero R Ashwin. The next set of batters included skipper Rohit, Shubman Gill and Sarfaraz Khan, the last-named player arriving here after taking part in the second-round Duleep Trophy match in Anantapur. The captain focussed on playing spinners, keeping Bangladesh's slow bowling attack in mind.

Ravindra Jadeja, Rishabh Pant and pacer Mohammed Siraj too faced local bowlers and a significant amount of throwdowns.

India's Virat Kohli bats during a training session ahead of their first Test against Bangladesh in Chennai, on Monday. —Photo: AP

Team drills focuses on intensity

Fielding coach T Dilip was impressed with the intensity of the unit despite punishing Chennai weather which is humid all year round. "Today, whole session idea was to get everyone together for a team drill with two segments to it. First, is competition taking humidity into account, we made sure that volume is less but intensity is more," Dilip said.

He then explained the training module. "We split teams into two groups and made some competition in catching and the team that made less number of errors won. It was Virat's team that won today," he informed. PTI

Shanto & Co sweat it out

CHENNAI: Young pacer Nahid Rana was in focus as Bangladesh started their preparations for the two-Test series against India from September 19 with an intense practice session, here at the MA Chidambaram Stadium on Monday.

Having arrived here on Sunday, Bangladesh hit the ground running and their batters displayed aggressive intent against net bowlers and throwdown specialists. The likes of Litton Das, Mahmudul Hasan Joy, Zakir Hasan and Shadman Islam looked to get their footwork going while also hitting some crisp straight drives. PTI

In Brief

GUADALAJARA

Frech clinches first WTA title

Magdalena Frech clinched the first WTA Tour singles title of her career with a 7-6(5), 6-4 win over Australian qualifier Olivia Gadecki in the WTA 500 Guadalajara Open summit clash. Frech needed just under two hours to seal victory. "Dreams come true, it's my first title and it's amazing. It's an incredible feeling, thank you for all the support, I just want to say, long live Guadalajara, long live Mexico!" Frech said.

BUDAPEST

Chess: Indian teams record victories

D Gukesh and Arjun Erigaisi powered Indian men scored a 3-1 victory over Azerbaijan in the fifth round of the 45th Chess Olympiad. It seems like Gukesh and Arjun can do nothing wrong in this Olympiad as they overpowered Aydin Sulemanli and Rauf Mamedov respectively with their white pieces in quick time. After scoring the fifth victory on the trot, the Indian men maintained a clean slate on ten points.

DUBAI

Lankan duo win ICC awards

Sri Lanka players Dunith Wellalage and Harshitha Samarawickrama were on Monday named as the ICC Players of the Month for August 2024. The rare double for Sri Lanka comes after Wellalage excelled in a home ODI series against India and Samarawickrama hit a purple patch on a tour of Ireland. Wellalage won the coveted monthly award ahead of South Africa'sKeshav Maharaj and West Indies' Jayden Seales.

NEW DELHI

Santosh is women's team coach

All India Football Federation (AIFF) on Monday appointed Santosh Kashyap as the new head coach of the national senior women's team, replacing former international player Chaoba Devi at the helm of affairs. Kashyap's first assignment will be the SAFF Women's Championships to be held in Kathmandu, Nepal, from October 17 to 30. The squad will camp in Goa from September 20.

Short takes

CRICKET MUMBAI

Players working on mental strength ahead of WC: Harmanpreet

Indian players have been working on their mental strength for a "long time" which should help the team in overcoming hurdles, says skipper Harmanpreet Kaur ahead of the upcoming women's T20 World Cup. "We have been working on mental strength for a long time. The last 3-4 overs are the most crucial. T20 cricket is not a small format; at the end of the day, you are playing 40 overs," Kaur said. India placed in Group A along with Australia, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and New Zealand.

CRICKET NEW DELHI

B'desh a force to reckon ahead of India Tests, says Gavaskar

Sunil Gavaskar feels Indian side needs to be cautious about facing Bangladesh in the upcoming two-match Test series, citing the visitors coming on the back of a historic 2-0 series win in Pakistan. "By beating Pakistan in both the Test matches played in Pakistan, the Bangladesh team have shown that they are a force to reckon with. Even a couple of years back, when India toured Bangladesh, they were given a good fight by the Bangladeshis," Gavaskar said.

CRICKET MANCHESTER

Buttler excited to work under coach McCullum

England white-ball captain Jos Buttler is excited to work with head coach Brendon McCullum and wants to make it the 'most enjoyable part of his career'. McCullum was recently given the additional charge of England's white-ball teams. "I have a bit of a relationship with Baz (Brendon McCullum) but I'm looking forward to spending more time with him. I'm looking forward to digging into the cricket side of things. He will help me so much as a captain," Buttler said.

CRICKET NEW DELHI

Comfortable to be in the shadow of Warne, says Nathan Lyon

Australia spinner Nathan Lyon has accepted to live with the fact of being constantly compared to legendary bowler Shane Warne throughout his career. "I'm never going to be able to do what Warnie did. Warnie's once-in-a-generation, he's the greatest to play the game in my opinion. I still feel in the shadow of Shane Warne now and I'm 129 Test matches in with 530 wickets. The thing is, I'm happy with that, and I'm comfortable with that now," Lyon said.

FOOTBALL RIYADH

Ronaldo misses Al-Nassr's Champions League Elite debut

Cristiano Ronaldo has a virus and did not travel to Iraq with Al-Nassr for Monday's AFC Champions League Elite debut match at Al-Shorta. Al-Nassr, Ronaldo's Saudi Arabian club, said that the Portugal forward "wasn't feeling well" and "was diagnosed with a viral infection," adding that the team physician confirmed he needs to rest. Playing for Portugal in the Nations League, Ronaldo recently scored against both Croatia and Scotland.

STREAMING NOW

Hockey: Asian Champions Trophy - Final, China vs India, 3.30 pm on Sony Sports Ten 1 & 3

Football: UCL, Bayern Munich vs GNK Dinamo, 12.30 am (Wednesday) on Sony Sports Ten 5

AC Milan vs Liverpool, 12.30 am (Wednesday), on Sony Sports Ten 2 & 3

Real Madrid vs Stuttgart, 12.30 am (Wednesday), on Sony Sports Ten 1

New Champions League era kicks off

Defending champs Madrid face Stuttgart in their opening game

AP
GENEVA

The new Champions League format kicks off Tuesday after more than six years of planning, one failed proposal and one Super League launch fiasco.

In the end, storied clubs who pushed for change from UEFA and created turmoil in European soccer got most of what they wanted: More teams, more games and more of them against strong opponents, more money. Now there are 36 teams instead of 32, each playing eight games instead of six, against eight different opponents instead of three. Kylian Mbappe starts his quest for a first title with his third club, the record 15-time European champion Real Madrid that hosts Stuttgart. Mbappe reached the semifinals in 2017 with Monaco and was a beaten finalist in 2020 with Paris Saint-Germain.

Ultimately, all 36 teams will be ranked from top to bottom in a single league standings that finishes in January instead of traditional four-team groups that would end in December. UEFA has cleared its midweek schedule to relaunch the marquee club event over back-to-back-to-back nights – six games each through Thursday. The league phase through January is quite simple. Each team plays a balanced schedule of eight games — four at home, four on the road — earning three points for a win and one for a draw.

Real Madrid's Dani Carvajal (right) and Lucas Vazquez during a training session ahead of their match against Stuttgart.

Eight different opponents were allocated in the draw last month by a software program picking two teams from each of four seeding pots. Seeding was based on a team's UEFA ranking over five years of results in European competitions. Recent champions Madrid, Manchester City and Bayern Munich were among the top seeds. Low-ranked pot four included debutants Girona and Brest, and long-time absentees Aston Villa, Bologna and Stuttgart. Advancing to the knockout phase is more complex, and UEFA suggested teams will need eight points from eight games to stay involved.

The top eight in the standings on January 29 go directly to the round of 16 in March seeded Nos. 1-8. Teams placed ninth to 24th in the standings enter a knockout playoffs round in February. Teams 9-16 will be seeded in the draw and play second legs at home against teams who placed from 17-24. The bottom 12 teams in the standings are eliminated.

The eight playoff winners advance as unseeded teams in the round of 16, which will be drawn into a set bracket like a tennis tournament. That replaces the old system of separate draws for the quarterfinals and semifinals.

The new era starts with two early kickoffs featuring three European Cup winners from the 1980s — Juventus (1985) hosts PSV Eindhoven (1988) and Aston Villa (1982) travels to Young Boys. Both are first-time fixtures between the teams.

Also playing are the four teams with the most European Cup and Champions League titles in their 70-season history. While Madrid plays Stuttgart, six-time winner Bayern hosts Dinamo Zagreb. The standout pairing is AC Milan against Liverpool at San Siro. Milan won the last of its seven European titles in the 2007 final against Liverpool.

Wrestling Champions Super League unveiled

Stars wrestlers Sakshi, Aman, Geeta announce league for country's budding grapplers

NEW DELHI

Olympic medallists Sakshi Malik and Aman Sehrawat, along with former world championship bronze-winner Geeta Phogat, on Monday announced that they would soon launch a Wrestling Champions Super League (WCSL) for the country's budding grapplers but are yet to get the national federation's backing for it.

Sakshi, along with Bajrang Punia and Vinesh Phogat, had spearheaded the wrestlers' protest against ousted Wrestling Federation of India President Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh, who was accused of sexual harassment. She has, however, distanced herself from the latter two after they took the political plunge by joining Congress ahead of Haryana assembly elections.

She won the 58kg bronze in 2016 Rio Olympics and announced the project with Phogat, a 55kg bronze winner in 2012 World Championships through their social media handles. While announcing that they had Paris Games bronze-winner Aman on board, the two did not provide any details. Phogat said that she is hopeful of support from the federation and the government.

"Sakshi and I have been planning this League for long. Soon it will take a final shape. We have not yet spoken to the WFI but it would be great if WFI and government support us. It will be the first league that will be operated only by the players," Phogat said.

"We are doing it for the players, for their benefit. That is the idea and vision, so no one should have any problem with it. It's a proud moment for us. We won't stop anyone from getting involved in it, if WFI or government comes on board, even better. We have not yet spoken to them.

"There will be international wrestlers, and coaches involved, so it should help our junior wrestlers. They will get good exposure." Asked if there will be prize money involved, and about the format and venue for the event, Phogat said, "You will have to wait a bit to know all this. We will share the details very soon." Sakshi, who retired from wrestling after Sharan Singh's close aide Sanjay Singh became WFI head, said she hopes to give back to the sport through this initiative.

"The only way to repay your trust is to dedicate our sporting talent, experience, grit & success to the service of the sport. The 2 of us have therefore come together to create the Wrestling Champions Super League (WCSL)," she posted on X. PTI

> **Sakshi and I have been planning this League for long. We have not yet spoken to the WFI but it would be great if WFI and government support us**
> — **GEETA PHOGAT,** Wrestler

'Federation has no role in it'

NEW DELHI: Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) president Sanjay Singh said the Wrestling Champions Super League, announced by former wrestlers Sakshi Malik and Geeta Phogat, is like "people organising dangals" and the federation has no role in it. "That might be their personal thing. Like people organise dangals. WFI has no role in it and we don't support such leagues," the WFI chief said. Rio Olympic bronze medallist Sakshi and 2010 Commonwealth Games gold medallist Geeta shared a joint statement on social media platform X on Monday. IANS

In Brief

BARCELONA

Barca's Olmo out for five weeks

Barcelona got some bad news a day after extending its perfect start to the season, with winger Dani Olmo being diagnosed with a leg injury that will sideline him for four to five weeks. The club said tests conducted Monday showed he sustained a right hamstring injury in the second half of the 4-1 win at Catalan rival Girona on Sunday.

MANCHESTER

Great Britain exit Davis Cup

Britain failed to qualify for the last eight of the Davis Cup Finals after losing to Canada 2-1 in its last group-stage tie, while Novak Djokovic helped Serbia secure a place in next year's qualifiers. The British needed a 3-0 win against the Canadians in Manchester, but Dan Evans lost 6-0, 7-5 to Denis Shapovalov to end Britain's hopes in front of a crowd of 15,700.

KOLKATA

NEUFC beat debutants MSC

Mohammedan Sporting suffered a heartbreaking defeat in their Indian Super League debut, conceding a stoppage-time goal to NorthEast United FC here on Monday. Coming on as a substitute in the 57th minute, North-East United's Moroccan midfielder Alaeddine Ajaraie scored in the fourth minute of the injury time (90+4).

Lukaku leads Napoli's big win

MILAN

Napoli might have a new hero in Romelu Lukaku. The former Chelsea forward set up two goals and also scored as Napoli won 4-0 at Cagliari on Sunday for its third straight victory in the Italian league.

Defending champion Inter Milan narrowly avoided its first defeat of the season as it salvaged a 1-1 draw at Monza. There are positive signs that, under new coach Antonio Conte, Napoli is starting to look more like the team that stormed to the league title in 2023 and less like the troubled side of last season.

One of the stars of that team was the now departed Victor Osimhen and he was replaced by Lukaku — reuniting the Belgium striker with Conte after the pair won Serie A at Inter in 2021. "I strongly wanted Romelu, as I always have throughout my career, because we're talking about an atypical player," Conte said. AP

Romelu Lukaku

Mayank impresses with century

SPORTS BUREAU
Hyderabad

Mayank Gupta's stellar 101 (16x4, 1x6) and K Sai Purnanand Rao's 98 powered Team Orange to 330 in 89.3 overs against Team Blue on day one of the HCA Men's Senior Zonals (Multi-Day) Tournament in Hyderabad on Monday.

In the HCA Men's U-19 Junior Zonals, Wafi Kachchhi's explosive 132 off 113 balls helped Team B beat Team A by five wickets. Batting first, Team A posted 262/9 in 38 overs. Aaron George top-scored with 72, while Sacheit and M Hansin Reddy chipped in with 60 and 50 runs, respectively. Later, Wafi's ton helped his team reach the target in 37.2 overs.

Wafi Kachchhi

BRIEF SCORES: HCA Men's Senior Zonals (Multi Day) Tournament: Team Yellow 257 in 70 overs (M Pratyush 56, A Avanish Rao 59, Ruthik Yadav 4/68) vs Team Purple 63/2 in 10.4 overs (P Gaurav Reddy 35); Team Orange 330 in 89.3 overs (K Sai Purnanand Rao 98, Mayank Gupta 101(129b,16x4,1x6), Ajay Dev Goud 4/49) vs Team Blue; **HCA Mens U-19 Junior Zonals:** Team A 262/9 in 38 overs (Aaron George 72, Sacheit 60, M Hansin Reddy 50, K Srikhar 4/46) lost to Team B 263/5 in 37.2 overs (Wafi Kachchhi 132(113b,20x4,1x6), Aryan Reddy 32); Team F 151/7 in 31 overs (Pushpa Raj 52, MA Malik 4/27) lost to Team C 152/5 in 29.4 overs (J Aditya 41, M Karthik 51 no); Team D 153 in 41.2 overs (Kritin Reddy 54, Yashveer 3/44) lost to Team E 154/3 in 27.2 overs (M Jashwanth 35, Anvith Reddy 63 no); **HCA Women's Seniors & U-23 Zonals (T20) Tournament:** Team B 97/5 in 20 overs (M Shivani Goud 35) lost to Team A 98/6 in 17.5 overs (CS Sadhvi 3/15); Team C 110/8 in 20 overs (Y Trisha Poojitha 52) lost to Team D 111/4 in 19.3 overs (R Satish Kumar 45 no).

Horoscope

J U B Sastry

ARIES
Aries (March 21-April 20)
As Venus safeguards money matters from Libra, you will be pretty happy with your financial status. You will have enough funds to keep up the day's commitments and your efforts to multiply revenues will be productive. You will begin and end the day on a happy note and it will be peaceful at home and the workplace as well.

TAURUS
(April 21-May 21)
You may feel elated as you experience a positive trend in professional matters. If you are a technical expert with long-distance client-base, you may learn that new projects, big and small, are in the pipeline. On the home front, you will have exciting times with spouse and children. You may go shopping and visit spiritual places.

GEMINI
(May 22- June 21)
With philosophical entity Saturn squaring spiritual entity Jupiter from Pisces, you will be a totally different person. Your thought process may assume a philosophical colour and you may go deeply into the very nuances of your life. You may undertake a thorough review of your decisions and behaviour towards others and try to amend yourself to please them.

CANCER
(June 22- July 22)
You may plan to act on matters related to professional rivals. This may not be the right day for you to deal with such matters. With Mars losing strength in ruling quarters, it would be better for you to maintain a low profile. You are advised to keep silent even if your rivals provoke you into some action. You can reply with a strong silence.

LEO
(July 23-Aug. 23)
Waiting for an opportunity, you may work on ways to deal with competitors. Things may look very promising and you may feel the day is right to act on your decisions. But here is a word of caution for you. Your rivals would be more active and your efforts may not match theirs. They may be serious in their efforts to outsmart you on the professional front.

VIRGO
(Aug. 24-Sept. 23)
The day is perfect to have fun and enjoy with family and friends. With your benefactor Venus transiting through the corridors of celestial family, you may find it necessary to go out with family for shopping, attending events or visiting places of entertainment. Nothing looks greater than spending time with family and friends. You may be right in that perspective.

LIBRA
(Sept. 24-Oct. 23)
You may witness positive developments in financial matters. As Southern Node squares debilitated Mars, the day may favour you financially. People who have avoided you all these days citing lame excuses may now come forward to repay outstanding amount. The day will favour you if you plan to undertake long-distance travels for professional purposes.

SCORPIO
(Oct. 24-Nov. 22)
You may claim to have friends from higher strata of society and your proud declarations about such an association may baffle people at home. They may be of the opinion that you are simply wasting time moving with such people. They may ask you how you are going to benefit from their association. Do you have a logical answer for it?

SAGITTARIUS
(Nov. 23-Dec. 21)
As ruling entity Jupiter continues to influence body and soul, you may feel that you are careful in property transactions. However, if you are making agreements with an unfamiliar individual for the first time, make sure you are dealing with a person with no involvement in controversies. Or else, your transactions may attract controversy resulting in dismay.

CAPRICORN
(Dec. 22-Jan. 20)
You may enjoy more freedom at work place and your moods will turn optimistic. You may learn that restrictions imposed on you because of earlier mistakes are now lifted. Your changed behaviour and working style may have encouraged higher-ups to change their mind. But the question is whether you can make use of it.

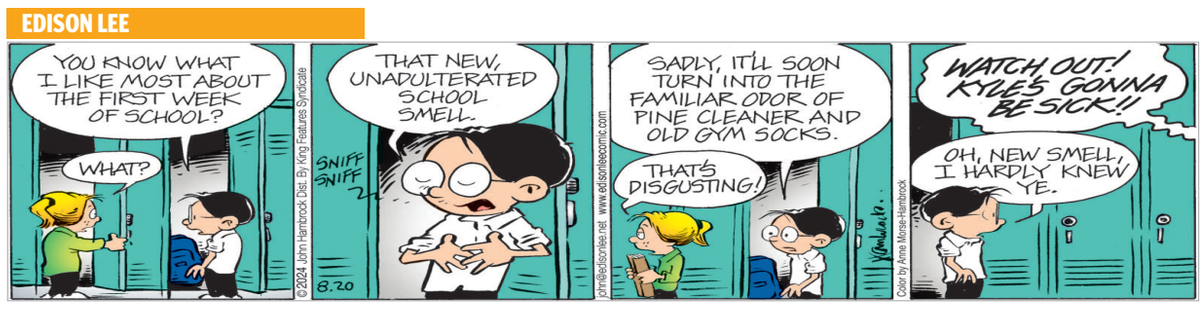
AQUARIUS
(Jan. 21-Feb. 19)
Post-flood scenario in your locality may give you new ideas and you may receive guests. Pleased at their arrival, you may spend more time with them at home or taking them out to see places of religious or spiritual importance. There will be useful discussions and exchange of views on serious family matters. You will feel great about it.

PISCES
(Feb. 20-March 20)
You will be driven by strong desire to establish credentials as better performer than anybody else at the workplace. It may be in tune with the habit of comparing yourself with others in your sphere of activity to make a point that you are better in performance. But professional rivals may point fingers at you saying your work is not original.

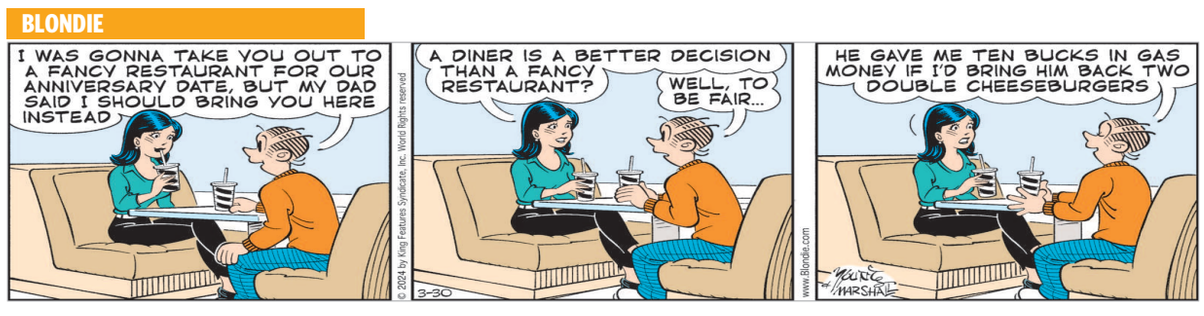
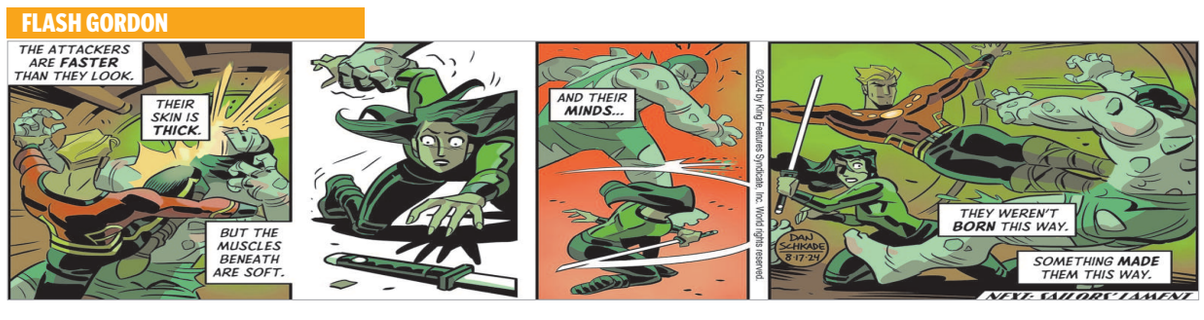
COMIC STRIPS

CALVIN & HOBBES

EDISON LEE



BLONDIE



FLASH GORDON